





THE  
HAMILTON AND NELSON PAPERS.





THE COLLECTION  
OF  
AUTOGRAPH LETTERS  
AND  
HISTORICAL DOCUMENTS

FORMED BY  
ALFRED MORRISON  
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*THE HAMILTON & NELSON PAPERS*

VOLUME II.

1798—1815.

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## P R E F A C E.

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THE letters and papers which occupy the present volume cover the years 1798 to 1815; but the last ten years of that period are represented by only a small number of them, which chiefly relate to domestic matters. The real interest of the series begins with the victory of the Nile and closes with Trafalgar; and the central object of that interest is the figure of Nelson. No memoir or biography of a great man can ever bring before us his personality so vividly as his own correspondence, and when we have read Nelson's last letter, written as he goes into his last action, the silence that follows is more eloquent in telling his fate than any words of others can be.

But the personality which is here revealed to us is not only that of the great naval hero who led our fleets to victory, and whom in imagination we place upon a pinnacle to be admired at a distance; nor is it only that of the frank, generous nature which seems to have endeared him to all who served with him or enjoyed his friendship—'When I think,' says one who knew him as a friend (No. 860), 'When I think, setting aside his heroism, what an affectionate, fascinating little fellow he was, how dignified and pure his mind, how kind and condescending his manners, I become stupid with grief for what I have lost.' In these letters we have something besides the hero and the friend; and we must leave the letters to speak for themselves.

All must deplore, all must feel shame for, the fact of Nelson's wild passion for the wife of another man, a passion which culminated in the birth of a child whose parentage no one who reads the following pages can reasonably doubt. But, putting

aside for a moment the moral aspect of the situation, and subjecting the domestic drama which unfolds itself to calm analysis, what in many points can be more perplexing to the student of human nature than the conduct of two of the three persons concerned? Are we to regard Nelson as a hypocrite in his avowed friendship for the man whose wife he calls his own? Can an all-absorbing passion produce an exaltation which carries away a man beyond his own control, and makes him still believe himself the true friend of the dishonoured husband? And are we to regard Hamilton as a hypocrite, professing friendship for the man to whose feelings towards his own wife he can scarcely have been blind? And yet how are we to explain such words of love and affection as those which he uses in a codicil to his will (Appendix E, 2) in regard to Nelson, 'the most virtuous, loyal and truly brave character I ever met with. God bless him, and shame fall on those who do not say Amen'? What can be more astonishing than the domestic arrangements of Merton, the purchase of the property, and the keeping house in common? Perhaps we may find the key to Hamilton's feelings in one of his last letters (No. 684): he was old and weary, and only wished for peace and quiet.

The third person in the drama stands on a different footing from that of the other two; but we will not resort to the common expedient of finding an excuse for the fault of the man in the conduct of the woman. We know Lady Hamilton's history, whence she came, and how she rose to position. We know her faults. Vain, theatrical, extravagant she was; her letters tell us as much. Illiterate and provincial in speech ('Emma's Doric,' as Lord Bristol terms it) she also was. In accounting for her influence, are we to set her beauty alone against all these repelling disqualifications? We think not. No mere personal beauty, in face of the disadvantage of lack of early education, could by itself have given her the extraordinary ascendancy which she exercised over so many men. Surely she possessed that charm or fascination—the *venustas* which the Roman poet celebrates in his mistress—which

in the long run tells more than mere beauty, and which, combined with beauty, may render a woman an irresistible power for good or for evil.

An impetuous temperament such as Nelson's would be just the one to be enthralled by such a power; and the condition of the times may, we think, have contributed to his subjection. A great war was being waged. Nelson was regarded, and regarded himself, as the instrument marked out to destroy the enemies of his country; and he must have habitually lived in a state of enthusiasm and exaltation which in peaceful days would have given place to the more sober progression of life. Under such circumstances it was that he yielded to a temptation which in less stirring times he might have successfully resisted. Let us not condemn without taking into account all that we charitably can in palliation of a great offence.





## THE HAMILTON AND NELSON PAPERS.

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302. A.L.S. 'B.' from Lord Bristol to Sir W. Hamilton. Dated Trieste, January 6th, 1798. 1 page 8vo., with Superscription. [H.]

'A very unpleasant difficulty has happened to me with my bankers, Messrs. Panton of Leghorn.

'Upon the approach of the French to Leghorn, I wrote positive orders to Panton to remove my effects to Corsica.

'They answer'd me Corsica was in more danger than Leghorn, & retained my goods in Leghorn.

'As the French approached they, *without consulting me*, hired a vessel for Naples, at the *incredible* price of £1800 sterling, and in it transferr'd my goods worth £670 at first cost.

'The goods are at Naples with either Cutler & Heigelin or the *Dogana*, I know not which.

### ERRATA.

Page 52 (Note) for 'Cilillo' read Cirillo.

„ 63 (Letter 420) for 'Revedy' read Revesby.

„ 107 (Note) for 'Maalay' read Marlay.

„ 149 (Note) for 'President' read Resident.

„ 194 Letter 675 is wrongly placed, it should be Number 819.

have been redeemed for a *trifle*, being, like many other trifles, of no use to any but the *owner*.

'Nay, had not Messrs. Panton not felt sinister intentions, they would have  
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lodged the cases in *Italian* warehouses, or sent them by the Arno to my banker, *Fenzi*, at Florence.

‘Your advice, therefore, how to proceed in the recovery of these goods, & information whether S<sup>r</sup> J. Acton, upon proof of these facts and my paying the usual reasonable freight from Leghorn to Naples, can relieve me from this fraud & rapine, is what I submit to your experience, your knowledge & your friendship—certain, very certain, that what can be done will be done by you.

‘All here is in the greatest ecstasy of joy at the *joyeuse entrée* of the Austrians, & you may bid Emma tell the dear Queen that from Udine here we saw nothing but festoons, triumphal arches, emblems of Austria, and all that can indicate joy, content & happiness.

‘The Corfu fleet is *in statu quo*; almost all *délabré* & chuck full with booty; for God’s sake, for patriotism sake, let not Earl St. Vincent’s lose this glorious opportunity. What thanks Mr. Pitt must give you & what approbation must you give yourself.

‘My friends here assure me there is upward of two millions sterling booty in gold, silver, copper, pictures, &c. &c. &c. Ever yours most cordially, with my love to dearest Emma. I shall stay at Rome [two] or three days, & then for my garret in Caserta.’

304. Facsimile of A. L. S. from Admiral Nelson to Captain Thomas Lloyd. Dated Bath, January 29th, 1798. 1½ pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

‘There is nothing you can desire me to do that I shall not have the greatest pleasure in complying with, for I am sure you can never possess a thought that is not most strictly honourable. I was much flattered by the Marquis’s\* kind notice of me, and I beg you will make my respects acceptable to him. Tell him that I possess his place in Mr. Palmer’s box; but his Lordship did not tell me all its charms, that generally some of the handsomest ladies in Bath are partakers in the box, and was I a bachelor I would not answer for being tempted; but, as I am possessed of everything which is valuable in a wife, I have no occasion to think beyond a pretty face. I am sorry the King is so poor. Had he been worth what those vile dogs of Opposition think, what a vast sum would have been given to the Nation; but I now hope all the Nation will subscribe liberally. You will believe that I do not urge others to give and to withhold myself; but my mode of subscribing will be novel in its manner, and by doing it I mean to debar myself of many comforts to serve my Country, and I expect great consolation every time I cut a slice of salt beef instead of mutton. The *Vanguard* will be at Sheerness, Saturday, and, if this wind holds, she will be at Portsmouth before Thompson† quits the Channel. I only pray that the French may not be ready to leave Brest. I have been in a fever ever since the *Boadicea*’s return with the account of their being ready for sea. Lady Nelson and my father thank you for your kind remembrance of them, and believe me, my dear Lloyd, your,’ &c.

305. A. L. from Lord Bristol to Sir W. Hamilton. Dated Padua, February 19th, 1798. 1 page 4to., with Superscription and Seal. [H.]

‘All our account, public & private, announce us in possession of Corfu, &c. God grant it may be true, for you see by my detail how important a possession it is, both in point of commerce & immediate revenue.

‘To-morrow I sett out for *Naples*, not being able to endure the damps of this

\* William Petty Fitzmaurice, 2nd Earl of Shelburne and 1st Marquis of Lansdowne, 1737–1805. The distinguished statesman, best known as Lord Shelburne, in which title he succeeded his father in 1761. After filling the office of Secretary for Foreign Affairs under the Marquis of Rockingham he was made Prime Minister, and in 1784 was created a Marquis.

† Vice-Admiral Sir Charles Thompson. Promoted to be an Admiral in 1794, and afterwards created a Baronet. He died in 1803.

part of Italy, which lay me up in bed for above the day, deprive me of my appetite, sleep & spirits ; nothing but Naples can restore me, but how to reach it ? If you know any magical means pray suggest it, and inclose your letter as usual to Mr. Day. Oh ! how I long to stretch myself in my garret at *Caserta*, & hear all your excellent anecdotes & dearest Emma's Dorick dialect ; eat woodcock pye & quaff humble port, till when, adieu.'

306. A. L. S. 'B.' from the same to Mr. Wyndham. Dated March 9th, [17]98. 1 page 4to., with Superscription and Seal. [H.]

'I send you the enclosed,\* *à cachet volant*, that you may judge how necessary to send it, not only by the speediest, but by the most secret method possible, if *such* there be. I am sorry to say that to-day all the contents are confirmed.

'The success of this *canaille* is equal to their arrogance.

'Poor Venice is tumbling out of the frying-pan into the *fire* ; those beastly, brutal Austrians are establishing such a despotism that already the populace at Padua (?) have begun to tear down the Imperial (flag). *Quos Jupiter vult perdere dementat prius*.

'And are you yourselves safe in Tuscany, *dum proximus ardet Ucalegon* ? I am told not.

'I am very ill indeed with this jaundice, *e mi lusengo, che c'è pericolo già che sono più che stoffo di tutte queste coglionerie*. Y<sup>rs</sup>, &c.

307. A. L. S. from the same to the same. Dated March 10th, 1798. 1 page 4to., with Superscription and Seal. [H.]

'I trouble you again, my dear S<sup>r</sup>, with the inclosed, *à cachet volant* for S<sup>r</sup> W<sup>m</sup>, as I deem the contents infinitely interesting.

'We are flatter'd here that the Kingdom of Naples is arming in mass.

'2nd. That the King's troops to the amount of 35,000, comanded by the Chevalier de Suze, are advancing fast to Rome.

'3d. That the Roman dissentients have repulsed, beat & repress'd *Massèna*, even, some letters add, fled to *Ancona* for re-inforcement. *Commérage—Commérage*.

'For God's sake enquire of the Neapolitan minister or others, and write me what you can of it, as *it interests me deeply*; for they have confiscated all my immense property there ; but having most nobly offered me to ransom it at a decent price, remains for me to know whether *Massèna* is likely to remain *there* to receive the ransom.

'At the same time be good to answer me with the same frankness I ask you if, as all the inns are chuck full, you could give me *one room* in your house, up two *pair* of stairs, where I always slept in my son's time. If not, I shall look out, & am, with equal regard,' &c.

308. A. L. from the same to Sir W. Hamilton. Dated Venice, March 18th, 1798. 3¼ pages 4to., with Superscription and Seal. [H.]

'For God's sake, S<sup>r</sup> W<sup>m</sup>, move heaven & earth to prevent in time the Austrian Cabinet from playing their cards as ill as they do ; tell our friend, S<sup>r</sup> J. Acton, that philosopher as well as statesman, what I ALMOST see with my own eyes, the imperial arms, erected with so much enthusiasm, torn down again at *Padua* & *Vicenza* with the same spirit in consequence of the horrid despotism they are establishing in that country, yet have they given noble & respectable privileges to all Dalmatia, w<sup>ch</sup> stands at the very door of Venice, & therefore is the great insult.

'My physicians, who, as you know, frequent all orders of men, assure me daily that if the Cabinet Vienna will but grant to the *terra firma* either the same

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\* 'The enclosed,' according to a docket of Mr. Wyndham, was a letter to Sir W. Hamilton, dated March 7th, 1798.



privileges as to Dalmatia, or the same as possess the Hungarians, or finally a transcript of the constitution of Brabant, for w<sup>ch</sup> country they have been exchanged, the Ferrarese, the Cremonese, the Modenese make no secret in every coffee house in the very market-place, to declare publicly, open & undismayed, that they will give themselves to Austria. This is so publick it is confirmed to me by all servants, and above a score of Cisalpine officers, who are 4 months in arrear, & above 300 Cisalpine soldiers to whom as much is due, & who beg charity on the road, and always receive it from me, not only speak the very same language, but declare openly their resolution to desert & come here to Venice to be enlisted.

'My servants saw 300 Cavalry 'twixt Legnano & Mantua, going to take possession of the latter, as they told.

'Berthier went through Bologna, as my banker tells me, but had not time to attend the musical academy, but only to levy by requisition in that night 40,000 Roman crowns, which were punctually given to pay part of the arrear of the Mantua army.

'My friend, Mariscotti, who married Lady Lanesborough's daughter,\* & is a *chargé d'affaires* or something equivalent at Milan, writes me by a private hand that they are at the eve of a civil war, & the Austrian party, by means of the clergy *especially*, greatly predominant.

'That the whole seems to him to depend on the Government establish['d] on the Venetian *terra firma*, that if a reasonable system of freedom be establish'd, the Cisalpine rep. is dissolved in less than a month, and, if not, *un despotisme vaut bien l'autre*; it really makes my heart bleed to see such fine cards so ill plaid, & to consider by the stroke of a pen the French influence, principles, & despotism may in the course of a month be eradicated from Lombardy.

'Did you ever hear the amount of the booty from the Monte di Pieta at Bologna alone?—three millions & an half of Roman crowns, & some of the first families sett adrift.

'All their plate put into requisition as at Ferrara, not an ounce left in any house, public or private.

'Did I tell you that at F'erra my poor physician paid to their commissary 600 ounces of silver plate, & my publican 400 ounces? and, as you may guess, the rage of these countries in town & country against the French is outrageous, undisguised, & unsuppressed.

#### TURIN.

'The private letters from hence keep us all on tip-toe, the revolution is expected daily; they count 13,000 Piedmontese, one madder than the other in the Cisalpine army, the very officers receive charity on the publick high-way, you know how I travel, & I myself have given it; but their rage against the King of Sardinia, & their avowed contempt of him is horrid.

'The *same French* commissary with the 2 English horses is again repassed, but no more news of the quarters at Ferrara for 12,000 men, the first column of 25,000.

'Tis here supposed they are too necessary for the quiet of distracted Milan. Distracted Vienna, I should say, who takes no advantage of such chaos & such confusion.

'*Corfu* by some accounts is said to be evacuated, by others *in statu quo*, you from *Otranto* may know the true state; if evacuated, L<sup>d</sup> G. has lost a great *coup de main*—14 ships of the line loaded with plunder, & 2 millions & half of booty, principally in canon, anchors, cordage, sails, & silver plate. I had yesterday a very cold letter from L<sup>d</sup> Spencert† on the subject, full of the warmest acknowledgements to me: *Quot homines, tot sententiae*. I should have thought such a booty & such a revenue at least as good as the *Canaries*, of whose strength it seems they knew nothing of the matter.

\* Sophia, Lady Lanesborough's fifth daughter, married in 1787 the Marquis Louis Marescotti, and died in 1840.

† George John, 2nd Earl Spencer, 1758–1834, only son of the 1st Earl, whom he succeeded in 1783. He went as Ambassador to Germany in 1794, was First Lord of the Admiralty from 1795 to 1800, and Secretary of the Home Department from 1805 to 1807. He was made a K.G. in 1797.

'If you would know the real state of Lombardy, get *Il Monitore di Bologna*, the comptier is a young man of great talents, admirably informed, & neither embraces nor fears any party; a little cynical on all, & more wit than belongs usually to a Gazetier.'

309. A. L. S. 'B.' from the same to Mr. Wyndham. Dated March 24th, 1798.  $\frac{3}{4}$  page folio, with Superscription and Seal. [H.]

'I send you, Sir, as usual, the inclosed for S<sup>r</sup> W<sup>m</sup> Hamilton, and flatter myself you will find in it some *new* and curious anecdotes. There is no doubt but the Austrian army is advancing with giant strides into the Cisalpina, probably with a view to relieve the Q. of Naples, who must otherwise decamp; but whither?

'Do you think it possible there can be in the capital 40,000 malcontents ready to rise?

'I know to a certainty from the Colonel of a regiment, a man of great quality & a near relation of my own, that the *four* regiments in garrison at Capua openly in their cups talked treason, and he himself as he walked his rounds, muffled up, has often heard them say, "Why don't these French come and rid us from Austrian tyranny?" The gates will soon be opened to them.

'I am assured from too good authority that Tuscany is at the eve of a democracy, & to be incorporated with the Roman Rep: the better to counter-balance *Naples*, be it Royal or Republican. Do you believe it?'

310. A. L. S. from Admiral Nelson to his wife. Dated March 31st, 1798. 1 page 4to., with Superscription. [H.]

'I go on board at two o'clock, and, if possible, I shall sail early to-morrow morning. I have not the scrap of a pen from Mr. Cooper; more than £45 I have laid out for his son. Mr. Marsh has given Allen\* no account of his money which you gave him to pay into the Funds. Get it!

'God bless you all, and ever believe me,' &c.

'I have opened the letter to say thanks for your letter. In due time send me Marsh and Creed's account. I have no wishes but for a speedy peace.

'I have wrote Mr. Cooper to send you an order for £45.'

311. A. L. S. from Captain Lloyd to Admiral Nelson. Dated April 9th, 1798. 1 page 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'About an hour after you left me I took to my bed with agonizing pains, and almost sleepless nights ever since. I am now much better, but still in bed, where I have been ever since Tuesday sen'night, and am bolstered up to tell you that among all your friends you have not one more anxious for your success and safety than your faithful and devoted friend,' &c.

'P.S.—I shall take care to give your compliments where you wish, and I shall not be unwatchful of your interest, nor the reputation of your Commander-in-Chief.

'I must make my letter short, being unable to lengthen it. God bless you, my good fellow. My compliments to all in the Tagus, if they are allowed to remain there.'

312. A. L. S. from the Princess Christina† to her sister. Dated Caserta, April 26th, 1798. 2 pages 4to. [P.]

On the happy day on which you are sixteen of age a sister—who loves you

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\* Tom Allen is well known as Nelson's trusty and faithful servant, who, at his own desire, accompanied his master to sea when he was appointed to the *Agamemnon*. He was with Nelson at the Nile, but happened to be away from him at Trafalgar. He was admitted into Greenwich Hospital as a pensioner in 1831, and died in 1838.

† Mary Christina Amelia Theresa, 1779–1849, third daughter of Ferdinand IV. and Maria Caroline. She married in 1807 Charles Felix, King of Sardinia. The sister to whom she writes was Mary Amélie, her next younger sister, April 26th, 1782–1850, married in 1809 Louis Philippe, afterwards King of the French.



most dearly, who, as far as it depends upon her, will contribute all that lays in her power to please you, and who hopes you will allow her a little place in your heart, and give her a proof of your affection by forgiving her if she has sometimes done or said something which might have offended or displeased you—wishes you no more than three things : the first, that you may live as many years as are formed by multiplying by itself the number of years you finish to-day, which would make 256; secondly, that you may enjoy these years in good health, free from woes and troubles of any kind, sort, or manner; third, that you may enjoy them always in the company of dear Papa, dear Mama, of the brothers and sisters, and of the other persons whom you love and in whom you take an interest; finally, I add a fourth wish, and this is that present circumstances may take a favorable turn, and that we may be able to pass the rest of our days in happiness, contentedness, peace, and tranquillity; it is with these feelings that I embrace you most heartily, and I am, and I shall always be the same, your, &c.

313. A. L. S. 'C. F. G.' from Charles Greville to Sir W. Hamilton.  
Dated April 30th, 1798. 4 pages 4to. [11.]

'You will receive enclosed a letter from Sr. Jos. Banks, which, had the times been quiet, you would have received by a private hand, but is returned, & I give it the chance of the common post. It may share the fate of many letters, but, I trust, of those I wrote you some, at least, have given you satisfaction, for in these times to know that your public conduct is approved, & that your situation is generally consider'd as arduous & anxious, must give the satisfaction which a patriotic mind deserves; & to know that all my attempts to benefit those who live on your estate & to improve the country will be so far established as to afford you both credit and an independant retreat should you be forced to abandon a climate and a country to which your constitution & affections are almost naturalized.

'I have withheld much detail of the port of Milford, which is grown since you saw the Pell farms, & the income, which is improved & not subject to further drain, joined to the pension which your long services will ensure you, give you the prospect of an honorable and comfortable retreat.

'I have been sorry to find you did not give full credit for your receipts, since the amount you specially appointed for the commencement of Milford had been expended, & during the time that drain lasted the steward, you know, was bound to pay the interest of your mortgage, £600 a year, & last year & the year before had remitted to Ross & Ogilvy nearly the whole rents. I do not think this year there will be any diminution of the remittance to Ross, notwithstanding the extraordinary pressure of the times. Sr. Jos. Banks shew'd me one letter in which you complained that not one shilling had been received from your estate, which made me very uneasy, but, knowing your confidence in Meyrick & your friendship for me, I have anxiously wished to see you at home, that you might see the real situation of your estate. I cannot boast of much insight in Ross's accounts, for, having had no direction to interfere there, I have never seen your account at their house nor been consulted, & I have taken on my own direction the Pell farms only, which are the site of the new town. Davis collects all those rented, & accounts to Mr. Meyrick, who always makes me witness his examining the vouchers. I have taken much trouble, & what little I have been able to scrape together to complete public works I have expended. The Custom house is the building I shall complete this year out of my own money. I have undertaken to erect light-houses at St. Anne's Point this summer, having brought the lessees, viz., y<sup>e</sup> Allens, &c., & the Trinity House to allot £2000, which they gave me to make this improvement. The people who build at Milford have no aid from you, & a great many houses are getting up, which, considering the times, is extraordinary; & all who are there are excellent people, & it is a pleasure to see how easy it is to do good. I trust there is a spirit of good in this kingdom bursting forth to avert the evil which has been preying on the foundation of all civilized society, & it is a certain basis of comfort when confidence & mutual good-will exists between landlord & tenant, & when you go to your estate you will be met with smiles & acknowledgments of justice. I look to Milford for such comfort when others fail.

‘At a distance some private details of this may also comfort you, but to what does the present delirium of continental politicks turn? We are no longer able to blind ourselves, & the veil being from our eyes, the spirit of all classes and all parties tend to the public defence, & the blessing of a free government appears in this Monarchy; for we shall shew France, if it can land the vast army it has prepared, that the country will not be passive while the armies meet, & the metropolis itself will be formidable from its internal force, which daily assumes the appearance of a place of arms under proper officers. We have just heard of the events at Vienna, & the house of Austria will not be left single to stem the torrent. I confess I feel proud of my country in having stood single, but, if the powers of the continent do not take alarm & catch some sparks of dignity & enthusiasm from the example of the descendants of Maria Theresa, the bonds of civilized society will be rent for ever. My love to L<sup>d</sup> H., believe me,’ &c.

314. ‘Extract\* from the Admiralty orders to Earl St. Vincent. Dated May 2nd, 1798.’ 1 page 4to. [H.]

‘Your Lordship is to direct the commanding officer of the above-mentioned squadron (of 12 sail of the line) to remain upon this service so long as the provisions of the said squadron will last, or as long as he may be able to *procure supplies* from any ports in the Mediterranean; and, when from want of provisions or other circumstances he shall be no longer able to remain within the straits, to lose no time in rejoining you. If from any favorable change of affairs the squadron should be joined by any ships of war belonging to any foreign power in amity with this country, to direct, in either of these cases, such of his ships to rejoin you as may not absolutely be required to insure his superiority, the moment he shall find himself in a situation to do so.’

315. A. L. S. from Admiral Nelson to Sir W. Hamilton. Dated ‘*Vanguard*, off Elba,’ June 12th, 1798. 4 pages 8vo. [H.]

‘If the *Transfer* sloop of war has arrived at Naples, you will know that the British fleet is in the Mediterranean, and that I have the honour of commanding it. It has been a misfortune that a fleet was not ordered a fortnight sooner; but, no blame attaches itself anywhere, and, from Sir Roger Curtis’s† junction with Lord St. Vincent, we are much sooner on the coast of Italy than could have been expected. But I hope we are in good time to save Naples or Sicily from falling into the hands of the Enemy. I beg you will assure the King and Queen of Naples that I will not lose one moment in fighting the French fleet, and that no person can have a more ardent desire of serving them and of fulfilling the orders of the good and great King our Master. As I am not quite clear, from General Acton’s Letters to you of April 3rd and 9th, what co-operation is intended by the Court of Naples, I wish to know perfectly what is to be expected, that I may regulate my movements accordingly, and beg clear answers to the following questions and requisitions:—

‘Are the ports of Naples and Sicily open to his Majesty’s fleet? Have the Governors orders for our free admission? and for us to be supplied with whatever we may want?

‘If it is *convenient*, I much wish for some frigates and other fast-sailing vessels, for, by a fatality, all mine have left me. I want information of the French fleet; for I hope they have passed Naples.

‘I want good pilots—say six or eight—for the coast of Sicily, the Adriatic, or for whatever place the Enemy’s fleet may be at; for I mean to follow them if they go to the Black Sea.

‘As the 12,000 men had not sailed from Genoa on the 2nd of June, nor, indeed, were they all embarked, I trust, if the French are landed in the Neapolitan

\* This ‘Extract’ is in Nelson’s handwriting.

† Sir Roger Curtis, 1750–1816, entered the navy young, and became a Lieutenant in 1771, Post-captain in 1777, Rear-Admiral in 1794, and created a Baronet for his services under Lord Howe. He afterwards became Admiral of the Red.



territory, that the kingdom will not be lost in a few days, for I again repeat, that when it is considered that the orders for a fleet to go into the Mediterranean were only dated May 2nd, and that Sir R. Curtis only came in sight of Lord St. Vincent on May the 24th, on which moment Captain Troubridge was sent away with the detachment to join me off Cape Sicie, that the British fleet is much sooner on the coast of Italy than could have been expected at this season of the year.

'I trust to your Excellency's goodness in impressing General Acton with a favourable opinion of my zeal in our Master's service, and although I most readily admit that many more able sea officers might have been selected for this service, yet one more anxious to approve himself a faithful servant to his King is not to be met with, than your Excellency's,' &c.

316. A. L. S. from the same to the same. Dated '*Vanguard*, off Civita Vecchia,' June 14th, 1798. 1 page 8vo. [H.]

'I have heard by a vessel just spoke with that the French fleet were seen off the north end of Sicily, steering to the eastward, on the 4th of June. If they mean an attack on Sicily, I hope by this time they have barely made a landing, for, if their fleet is not moored in as strong a port as Toulon, nothing shall hinder me from attacking them; and with the blessing of Almighty God I hope for a most glorious victory. I send Captain Troubridge\* to communicate with your Excellency, and, as Captain Troubridge is in full possession of my confidence, I beg that whatever he says may be considered as coming from me. Captain Troubridge is my honoured acquaintance of twenty-five years, and the very best sea officer in His Majesty's service. I hope pilots will be with us in a few hours; for I will not lose one moment, after the brig's return, to wait for anything. Believe me your,' &c.

317. A. L. S. from Sir W. Hamilton to Admiral Nelson. Dated Naples, June 16th, 1798. 4½ pages folio. [H.]†

'This Government having just received advice of a fleet's having been discovered from the top of the island of Ischia, consisting of about 14 sail of the line coming from the westward and running S.-E. b. S.; it can be no other than the squadron under your command, and upon the protection of which the safety of Italy depends at this moment. I hasten to send off a Maltese speronara or the first good sailing boat I can hire to inform you of as much as is known here of the strength & position of the enemy's fleet.

'The first division of the Toulon armament arrived off Trapani in Sicily on the 5th instant, and the 2nd joined it there the 7th; they were, according to the account I received from General Acton, 16 sail of the line, French & Venetian, & that Gen<sup>l</sup> Buonaparte was on board the *Sans Culotte*, in which ship were also the scävans, astronomers, naturalists, mathematicians, &c.; not fewer than 2000 men are said to be on board that ship, which, as all the other ships of war, are visibly much encumbered with lumber of all sorts. 10 frigates, 20 gun-boats, some armed brigs & cutters were seen, & about 280 transports said to contain at least 40,000 troops. They sent a frigate near the island of Favignana in Sicily, from which a boat was sent with an officer, who told the governor of the island that Buonaparte had sent him to acquaint him that the approach of the fleet need not give any uneasiness to his Sicilian Majesty, with whom the French Republic was in perfect peace, and that the armament he had the honor to command had another object, not Sicily.

'Accounts have since been received by this Government from the com-

\* Sir Thomas Troubridge, was the son of a baker, and entered the navy in 1773. In 1796 he was attached to the Mediterranean Fleet, served off Cape St. Vincent in 1797 and at Santa Cruz. He superintended the blockade of Alexandria, and was created a Baronet in 1797. He was lost at sea in the *Blenheim* with all on board in 1807.

† It appears from the endorsement in Sir William's writing that this letter never reached Nelson's hands.



manding officer of the island of Panteleria near Malta, who says, in a letter dated the 8th instant, that a gun-boat from the French fleet came to that island desiring to land, but, the commanding officer refusing to permit them, the officer of the boat still insisted, as he came by order of Genl. Buonaparte, who he said was off Malta with 24 ships of the line & 80 thousand men; but at last, hearing that the Panteleria belonged to the King of Naples, said it was another case, that he thought it belonged to Malta. The same felucca that brought this intelligence said that the French had captured a Maltese brigg just off of Malta, and that the Maltese were all under arms preparing for a vigorous defence. Both in Sicily and at the island of Panteleria many questions were asked by the French about a British squadron's being in the Mediterranean, which they thought impossible, and the answer given them was that British colours had not been seen for two years passed except on board some Gibraltar privateers.

'God send you, my dear Nelson, the success that may be expected from your well-known bravery and experienced conduct, and with such a chosen band under your command.

'I hope that my dispatch with one enclosed from Lord St. Vincent directed to you, and which were brought to me by Capt. Bowen in the *Transfer* brig last Sunday, and which I sent off the same day in the *Queen Esther*, privateer of Gibraltar, to endeavour to find you out, may have reached you. When I am sure that it was your squadron seen off Ischia, I will send off Capt. Bowen to Lord St. Vincent with all the information in this letter.

'Adieu, my dear & brave friend. Emma, you may be sure, joins with me heart & soul in wishing you to crown your glory by the destruction of this boasted armament, on which the future tranquillity not only of Italy, but of all Europe, seems greatly to depend. I have the honour to be,' &c.

318. A. Draft of L. from the same to (Lord St. Vincent). Dated Naples, June 16th and 17th, 1798. 8 pages folio. [H.]

'I was honor'd with your Lordship's most consoling letter of the 22nd of May last Sunday by Capt. Bowen of the *Transfer* sloop of war, and immediately communicated its contents to their Sicilian Majesties and their Ministry. Your Lordship may well imagine how welcome the news of a powerful and well-chosen British squadron being on its way to protect the Two Sicilies was to their Majesties, who had just before received the account of the Toulon armament being on the coast of Sicily.

'The following is the account that this Government has hitherto received relative to that armament. The first division arrived on the Sicilian coast the 5th of June, and the second, which compleats it, joined them there the 7th of June. They were then, according to the list I received from Gen<sup>l</sup> Acton, 16 sail of the line, 10 frigates, 30 gun-boats, some armed brigs & cutters, and about 280 transports with troops said to amount to 40 thousand men. General Buonaparte, Commander-in-Chief, was on board the *Sans Culotte*, as were all the sçavants, naturalists, mathematicians, &c.; it is said not less than 2000 men on board that ship, which as well as all the other ships of war appear visibly to be much encumbered with lumber of all sorts.

'They remained between Trapani & Marsala for a few days, and Gen<sup>l</sup> Buonaparte sent an officer in a boat to the Governor of the island of Favignana to assure him that his Sicilian Majesty need not be under any alarm from that fleet, as the French Republic was in perfect peace with his Majesty, and that the armament had another—not Sicily—for its object. On the 8th instant they went off towards Malta. Yesterday this Government received a letter dated the 8th June from the Governor of the island of Panteleria saying that a French gun-boat had been at that island, and an officer wanted to land, but was not permitted. He said that he came from Gen<sup>l</sup> Buonaparte, who was with 22 ships of the line, and 80 thousand men off Malta with orders to land on that island; but, when the Governor told him it belonged to the King of Naples, he said that alter'd the case, as he thought it belonged to Malta, and went off very civilly.

He asked many questions relative to a report of a British squadron's being in the Mediterranean, which they thought impossible to be true. In Sicily they asked the same, and were answered that for two years passed they had not seen British colours except on board some Gibraltar privateers. The same felucca that brought this news from the Panteleria said that the great armament was lying off Malta, & had taken a large Maltese brig belonging to that place, and that the Maltese were alarmed and preparing for a vigorous defence.

'This morning this Government has received advice from the island of Ischia that yesterday evening from the top of a high mountain in that island they had seen a fleet of 14 ships of the line coming from the westward, and running S.-E. b. S. ; if so, it can be no other than Sir Hor. Nelson's squadron. I have sent off at a hazard a Maltese speronara with a letter for Sir Hor. with the above-mentioned intelligence, which is as much as we know here, and which may be of use should the speronara have the good fortune to fall in with the squadron. I have kept Capt. Bowen some days, much against his will, with the hopes of being able to send your Lordship some certain accounts of the British squadron. I had wrote so far yesterday; this morning only, June 17th, Capt. Hardy, in the *Mutine*, arrived here, and brought Capt. Troubridge of the *Culloden* with him, Ad<sup>l</sup> Nelson remaining off this bay at such a distance that the hulls of the ships were not discernable. Capt. Troubridge gave me a letter from Rear-Admiral Sir. Hor. Nelson, desiring to be informed if the ports of the Two Sicilies were open to the King's ships without limitation, and whether they had free liberty to provide themselves with all sorts of provisions and stores in those ports. The answers to these questions your Lordship will find in the inclosed copy of the Marquis de Gallo's,\* the present Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, answer to an official billet I wrote to his Excellency by order of Lord Grenville demanding a categorical answer to those important questions. I have likewise sent a copy of the same to Sir Hor. Nelson. Your Lordship will see by the Marquis de Gallo's billet that this Government is waiting for an answer from London and one from Vienna before they take the decided part of joining with us openly, but that every assistance that can be given to the King's fleet in the Mediterranean, and that would not absolutely be a direct violation of their treaty with the French Republic, might be depended upon. I carried this morning Capt. Troubridge and Capt. Hardy† to Genl. Acton, and they were much pleased with the answers given to them by that Minister, who still remains all-powerfull in this country. Capt. Troubridge having expressed a desire to have an order to the Commanders of all the ports in Sicily to supply our ships with provisions, and, in case of an action, to be permitted to land the sick and wounded in those ports, the General was so good as to give him such a written order in the name of his Sicilian Majesty signed by himself, and addressed to all the several Governors of the different ports in Sicily.

'Capt. Troubridge was perfectly satisfied with this & General Acton's declarations of friendship; I really believe they are sincere, and that this Court will declare, as it certainly ought, that it joins with us without reserve against the treacherous enemy, as soon as it can, and that in the meantime every concealed assistance will be amply afforded to the British fleet, on which the very existance of this monarchy depends at this moment.

'Capt. Troubridge did not stay above two hours on shore, and is now on his way to join Adl. Nelson off the island of Capua, having got pilots to conduct him through the Straits of Messina in order to reach Malta, where the French armament certainly was on the 8th instant, and where I hope Ad<sup>l</sup> Nelson will find it. I am assured by Genl. Acton that the Grand Master at Malta is prepared, and

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\* Marzio Mastrilli, Marquis, afterwards Duke de Gallo, 1753-1833, a Neapolitan statesman, sent as Ambassador to Vienna, and afterwards charged by the Austrian Government with the delicate mission of carrying on negotiations with Bonaparte, which resulted in the Peace of Campo Formio. In 1802 he was sent as Ambassador to Milan, was made a Duke by Murat, and Minister for Foreign Affairs. In 1820 he went as Ambassador to Russia.

† Captain, afterwards Sir Thomas Masterman Hardy, 1769-1839, for some time Nelson's Flag-captain, and his inseparable companion, in whose arms he died. He was created Baronet in 1806, K.C.B. in 1815, and was subsequently promoted to be Rear-Admiral of the Blue.



will make a vigorous resistance if attacked by the French, and that he has sent one of his ships of the line and a frigate with orders to look for and join Adl. Nelson's squadron. This is all the information I can give your Lordship at present ; but I flatter myself that the brave and powerful squadron which your Lordship has chosen for the protection of these kingdoms will in a few days give occasion for my sending off a quick sailing-vessel to give your Lordship some joyfull tidings.

'Their Sicilian Majesties have very particularly enjoined me to express to your Lordship their gratefull sense of the eternal obligation they feel themselves under to the King, the British nation, and to your Lordship in particular. Gen<sup>l</sup> Acton received your Lordship's compliments with infinite satisfaction, and desires to be kindly remembered to your Lordship, and that I wou'd assure you that he wou'd do all in his power for the comfort of the British squadron in the Mediterranean. I look upon my having detained Capt. Bowen so long as a fortunate circumstance, as I am by it enabled to give your Lordship intelligence both of your squadron and of the French armament. I have the honor,' &c.

319. A. L. S. from Admiral Nelson to Sir W. Hamilton. Dated  
'*Vanguard*, Naples Bay,' June 17th (1798). 2 pages 4to. [H.]

'Your letter by the boat yesterday did not come to me, but I am just favoured with yours of yesterday. Captain Troubridge will say everything I could put in a ream of paper. I have only to observe, in my present state, if I meet the enemy at sea, the convoy will get off, for want of frigates. I submit this to you to urge General Acton upon. If the enemy have Malta, it is only as a safe harbour for their fleet, and Sicily will fall the moment the King's fleet withdraws from the coast of Sicily ; therefore we must have free use of Sicily, to enable us to starve the French in Malta. I need not say more on this very important subject. The King of Naples may now have part of the glory in destroying these pests of the human race ; and the opportunity, once lost, may never be regained. God bless you. Depend on my exertions. I am,' &c.

320. A. L. S. (marked 'Private') from the same to the same. Dated  
'*Vanguard*, at Sea,' June 18th, 1798. 2 pages 4to. [H.]

'I would not lose one moment of the breeze, in answering your letter. The best sight (as an Irishman would say) was to see me out of sight ; especially, as I had not time to examine the Marquis de Gallo's note to you. I send you an extract of the Admiralty orders to Earl St. Vincent, by which it would appear as determined by the Cabinet, to keep a superior fleet to the enemy in the Mediterranean ; for the Admiralty you know can give no such orders, but by an order from the Secretary of State. As for what depends on me, I beg, if you think it proper, to tell their Sicilian Majestys and General Acton that they may rest assured that I shall not withdraw the King's fleet but by positive orders or the impossibility of *procuring supplies*. I wish them to depend upon me, and they shall not be disappointed. God forbid it should so happen that the enemy escape me, and get into any port. You may rely, if I am properly supplied, that there they shall remain, a useless body, for this summer. But if I have gun and mortar boats, with fire-ships, it is most probable they may be got at ; for, although I hope the best, yet it is proper to be prepared for the worst (which I am sure all this fleet would feel), the escape of the enemy into port. My distress for frigates is extreme ; but I cannot help myself, and no one will help me. But, thank God, I am not apt to feel difficulties. Pray, present my best respects to Lady Hamilton. Tell her I hope to be presented to her crowned with laurel or cypress. But God is good, and to Him do I commit myself and our cause. Ever believe me, my dear Sir, your obliged and faithful,' &c.

321. A. L. S. from the same to the same. Dated '*Vanguard*, off the Pharo of Messina,' June 20th, 1798. 3½ pages 4to. [H.]

'I have thought so much, and heard so much, of the French since I left

Naples, that I should feel culpable was I for a moment to delay expressing my sentiments on the present situation of the Kingdom of the Two Sicilies. I trust it will be received as I mean it—as a proof of the lively interest I take in the fate of their Sicilian Majesties. I shall begin by supposing myself commanding a fleet attending an army which is to invade Sicily. If the general asked if Malta would not be a most useful place for the dépôt of stores, &c. &c., my answer would be, if you can take Malta, it secures the safety of the fleet, transports, stores, &c., and insures your safe retreat, should that be necessary; for, if even a superior fleet of the enemy should arrive, before one week passes they will be blown to leeward, and you may pass with safety. This would be my opinion. There can be no doubt but the French know, as well as you and I do, that their Sicilian Majesties called for our help to save them (even this is crime enough for the French). Here we are, and are ready, and will shed our blood in preventing the French from ill-treating them. On the arrival of the King's fleet I find plenty of good-will towards us, with every hatred towards the French; but no assistance for us—no hostility to the French. On the contrary, the French Minister is allowed to send off vessels to inform the fleet of my arrival, force, and destination, that, instead of my surprising them, they may be prepared for resistance. But, this being past, I shall endeavour briefly to state what in my opinion is now best to be done, and what Naples ought to do if it is earnestly wished to save Sicily. I shall suppose the French not advanced since the last accounts, but still on Gozo and Comino, the fleet anchored between them. By the communication from Naples, they will be formed in the strongest position, with batteries and gun-boats to flank them. We shall doubtless injure them, but our loss must be great; and I do not expect to force them from the anchorage without fire-ships, bomb-vessels, and gun-boats, when one hour would either destroy or drive them out. If our fleet is crippled, the blockade ends; if not, it will be continued, by attention, and sending two ships at a time to Sicily to get refreshments, for the summer, at least; but whenever this fleet may be drawn away, and the Ministry find what has passed at Naples—*no co-operation*, although we are come to their assistance—who can say that the fleet will be kept in these seas? I have said, and repeat it, *Malta is the direct road to Sicily*. It has been, and may be yet, in the King of Naples' power, by giving me help of every kind, directly to destroy this armament, and force the army to unconditional submission. Naples must soon find us masts, yards, stores, ammunition, &c. &c. Will not this be a declaration of war against the French?—therefore, why delay sending help, if it is only six gun-boats at a time? But not a moment must be lost—it can never be regained. I recollect General Acton, in his letter to you calling for our help, says, "Will the King and Ministry wish to see these fine countries in the hands of the French?" The answer is, "No;" and we have sent the means of preventing it. It may now be asked, Will the Ministry of their Sicilian Majesties permit these fine countries to fall into the hands of the French? This will assuredly happen if they do not co-operate with us. If I have wrote my mind too freely, I trust it will be excused. The importance of the subject called for my opinion. I have given it like an honest man, and shall wish to stand or fall with it. I am, &c.

322. A. Draft of letter S. from Sir W. Hamilton to Admiral Nelson.

Dated Naples, June 26th, 1798. 5 pages folio. [H.]

'I had the pleasure of receiving your packet, dated the 20th instant, off the Pharo, Messina, by an express felucca sent me by the British Vice-Consul of Messina, and I flatter myself that you must have been informed before you passed the Pharo that Malta had been treacherously given up to the French Republic on the 12<sup>th</sup> inst., but perhaps you may not have had a copy of the infamous Convention between the Order of Malta & the Republic, *under the mediation of His Catholic Majesty*, and therefore I send you the inclosed copy, N. 1. N. 2 is a list of the French armament, which we flatter ourselves you will, before this letter reaches you, have blocked up in the harbour of Malta. This Government expects daily a messenger from Vienna, and upon the Emperor's motions it is clear that those of this country entirely depend; they are giving time for the French to pour in fresh troops into Italy. Ten thousand are already arrived at



Milan, and twenty-five thousand more are coming from Marseilles. What you state in your last letter to me is as plain and as true as possible. I read your letter to Gen<sup>l</sup> Acton; His Exc<sup>y</sup> was struck with your statement of the actual position of the enemy and of Sicily, but still I can get no more satisfactory an answer than that which I sent to you by Cap<sup>t</sup> Troubridge. They are sending, however, from hence a sort of naval force & gun-boats into Sicily for the defence of that island, & which may be ready to act with you as soon as this country breaks with the French Republic, & which, as you may well imagine, can not long be avoided, but still the present moment is lost. The letter Cap<sup>t</sup> Troubridge & I got from Gen<sup>l</sup> Acton I look upon as a sort of credential one for you upon Sicily, and, as that island to my certain knowledge is most partial to Great Britain, you will be sure of every aid from that quarter. As our good and Royal Master has, at the earnest entreaty of their Sicilian Majesties, made such a noble effort in their favour, by sending out the powerfull squadron under your command, let it save their fine country if possible, & I might almost say in spite of their teeth, for they do nothing at this precious moment to help themselves. *You* certainly now command here, and have already, by your appearance only in these seas, saved Sicily from immediate destruction.

'You know how much I am an enemy to half measures, and your actions have long proved your determined character. Malta itself, as you know, belongs to the Crown of Sicily; the opinion I ventured to give here upon the arrival of the news of its having been given up to the French was that His Sicilian Majesty shou'd send away M<sup>r</sup> Garrat,\* the Ambassador of the French Republic, and march on directly to Rome, sending an express to the Emperor to acquaint him that His Majesty had thought it absolutely necessary to draw his sword again & throw away the scabbard, & that he flattered himself that His Imperial Majesty wou'd not suffer him to be sacrificed by a faithless enemy. The Emperor must then have come forward, and, by our Government's sending you the frigates, galeots, gun-boats, & small vessels, of which you are in want of, directly, there would be the best chance of counteracting & frustrating all the diabolical plans of the French Directory. But, alas! I see plainly there is not energy & resolution enough in this Government to come to such a decided and, I think, salutary measure. All our present dependance is in you, my dear Nelson, and I am convinced that what is in the power of mortal man to do you will do. That God may protect you and the brave band you have the honor to command, & in so just a cause, is the constant prayer of, my dear sir, your,' &c.

323. A. Draft of letter S. from the same to the same. Dated Naples, June 30th, 1798. 2 $\frac{3}{4}$  pages folio. [H.]

'Last night this Government got certain intelligence from Sicily that the French arnament had left Malta on the 19<sup>th</sup> ins<sup>t</sup>, having left a garrison there from six to eight thousand men, some of which are Cisalpines & Polonese. That there were now in the harbour three French frigates, and a small Maltese ship of the line, & one frigate, & that there is another fine Maltese ship of the line just finished, but not come out of the dock. Mon<sup>r</sup> Garrat tells this Government that Buonaparte writes him word he is gone to the Levant, & for that reason I should think he may have taken quite another direction. God send only that you may get sight of them. The reports from Sicily say that your squadron was seen off Cape Passaro on the 21<sup>st</sup> in the morning. Cap<sup>t</sup> Hope will tell you that he has had every assistance from this Government in getting in his bread & water in a short time. They certainly wish us well, but at the same time are, out of fear of the French, counteracting what we are doing for them. For example: I have just learnt that the Ambassador of the Republic, Mo<sup>r</sup> Garrat, has asked for a supply of provisions for Malta, and that the answer given by that Government is that Malta belongs to His Sicilian Majesty now, so the French cou'd not pretend to

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\* Dominique Joseph Garat, 1749-1833, a French politician and man of letters, at one time one of the principal editors of the *Journal de Paris*. In 1792 he replaced Danton as Minister of Justice; was afterwards Minister of the Interior, and went as Ambassador to Naples in 1797. He was a Member of the Academy of Sciences.

have the same privileges of getting a certain annual quantity of corn from Sicily, as had been granted always to the Order of Malta. However, it ended in Garrat's being allowed by that Government to buy corn & provisions in Sicily for Malta with ready money wherever the laws of Sicily allowed the exportation of corn, so that you may be sure Malta will soon be amply supplied. Is it not shocking that neither the Emperor nor His Sicilian Majesty will abandon their half measures and take a decided part? You will find by a Gazette Extraordinary of the 2<sup>d</sup> of June, that I send you by Cap<sup>t</sup> Hope, that the Rebellion in Ireland is nearly at an end.

'As your frigates sail to-day, I hope they may soon join you, and that we may receive the joyfull news of your having overtaken & overthrown the boasted armament before it can take shelter again.

'May health & success attend you.'

324. Doc. S. 'Horatio Nelson.' Dated *Vanguard*, Syracuse, July 22nd, 1798. 1 page 4to.\* [H.]

B. Alexandretta.

D. Cyprus.

F. Alexandria.

A. Rhodes.

C. Dardanelles.

Z. Smyrna.

W. Cannu in Candia.

X. Syracuse.

M. Naples.

N. Towards the Adriatic.

O. W<sup>t</sup> end of Sicily.

E. S. W<sup>t</sup> end of Sardinia, probably

G. Off Toulon. [St. Peters.

H. Gibraltar.

K. Oristand Bay, in the Island of Sardinia.

325. A.L.S. from Admiral Nelson to Lady Hamilton. Dated *Vanguard*, Syracuse, July 22nd, 1798. 1½ pages 4to., with Superscription. [H.]

'I am so much distressed at not having had any account of the French fleet, and so much hurt at the treatment we receive from the power we came to assist & fight for, that I am hardly in a situation to write a letter to an elegant body; therefore you must on this occasion forgive my want of those attentions which I am ever ambitious to shew you. I wish to know your and Sir W<sup>m</sup>'s plans for going down the Med<sup>n</sup>, for, if we are to be kicked in every port of the Sicilian dominions, the sooner we are gone the better. Good God! how sensibly I feel our treatment. I have only to pray I may find the French and throw all my vengeance on them. With affectionate regards to Sir William, believe me,' &c.

326. A. L. S. from the same to Sir. W. Hamilton. Dated *Vanguard*, Syracuse, July 23rd, 1798. 1 page 4to. [H.]

'The fleet is unmoored, and the moment the wind comes off the land shall go out of this delightful harbour, where our present wants have been most amply supplied, and where every attention has been paid to us; but I have been tormented by no private orders being given to the Governor for our admission. I have only to hope that I shall still find the French fleet, and be able to get at them: the event then will be in the hands of Providence, of whose goodness none can doubt. I beg my best respects to Lady Hamilton, and believe me ever your faithful,' &c.

'No frigates!—to which has been, and may again, be attributed the loss of the French fleet.'

327. Copy† of Letter from General Acton to Sir W. Hamilton. Dated Naples, August 1st, 1798. 4 pages folio. [H.]

'I have seen with a true concern the contents of Adm<sup>l</sup> Nelson's letters from

\* This Document is endorsed in Sir William's handwriting, 'Key to Sir Horatio Nelson's motions, *Vanguard*, July 22<sup>d</sup>, 1798, from Syracuse.'

† In the handwriting of Sir W. Hamilton.



Siracusa. I must condole with all of us for the misfortune which has befallen the activity of our brave Admiral by miscarrying the French in their course, notwithstanding the most energetical efforts to meet them before their landing an army. Lord knows in what direction or what is their mischievous project?

'We must, however, do as well as we can in this disagreeable, but not desperate, case. His Sicilian Majesty has been acquainted immediately of what you have been so good to communicate to me. Both their Majesties are in the greatest uneasiness for their own situation in this moment. Admiral Nelson is certainly at present, and every English squadron, most heartily welcome to all the ports of the Two Sicilies; but you are officially acquainted only since yesterday, my dear sir, from Sir Morton Eden, as well as from our own communication, that the long-wished-for articles of our breaking peace on account of the English coming to our ports is to be consider'd in the *Casu fœderis* by the Emperor, that article is signed at Vienna the 16<sup>th</sup> of July only. Therefore, all orders in Sicily for admitting any English squadron of whatever number cou'd not be openly given, and our demands from the respective governors are but an excuse to give in case of a rupture, to shew that we are in a kind forced to admit them above the fixed number, in case that the Emperor had lain on us the blame and denied to support us, as the treaty offer'd did formerly declare that in case *only of an attack*, not provoked from the French, as invasion, &c., we shou'd be defended by the Austrians.

'I hope, my dear sir, that, having seen all our papers from Vienna arrived yesterday, you will be so kind as to do justice with the Court of St James's, with the Earl St Vincent, and with the good and sensible Sir Horatio Nelson especially. I enjoy, however, that every civility was paid to him in Siracusa. We are, since yesterday, on another footing; but we are now in danger of a war, directly on Admiral Nelson's account; you see fairly our position; will Adm<sup>l</sup> Nelson run to the Levant again without knowing for certain the position of the French, and leave the Two Sicilies exposed in these moments? Buonaparte has absconded himself, but in any port he has taken securitys not to be forced. God knows where he is, and whether we shall not see him again in a few days, if we do not hear of what a course he has taken; I present all this to your consideration. The brave Nelson will certainly have them present, he may defeat the French coming to us, he expected and we hoped, on their passage on our coasts.'

328. A. Draft of Letter from Sir W. Hamilton to Admiral Nelson. Dated Naples, August 1st, 1798. 6 pages folio. [H.]

'This morning at 12 o'clock I received your packet of the 20<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>d</sup> of July, from Siracusa, and you may judge of our disappointment, as for ten days past reports have been current of your having defeated the French fleet in the bay of Alexandrette on the 30<sup>th</sup> of June & taken Buonaparte prisoner; but we must not repine, you have done what man cou'd do, and as you say very well the Devil's children have the Devil's luck. I can easily conceive the anxiety of your mind during your long and fruitless tour in a crippled ship & without a single frigate. But, as all repining at what is passed is in vain, let us do the best we can in our present situation. First, let me inform you of all we know here since your departure of the 17<sup>th</sup> of June, at noon, when we lost sight of you off the island of Capua. A Maltese speronara that I sent off with a letter of no great consequence to you came back with the letter saying he saw your squadron off Siracusa the 21<sup>st</sup> of June, steering to the Levant, but could not get up to you. On the 27<sup>th</sup> of June Capt Hope arrived here in the *Alcmene* in company with the *Terpsichore*, the *Emerald*, & *Bon Citoyen*. I went alongside Hope before he came to an anchor, & shew'd him your letter of the 17<sup>th</sup>, in which you say, *I am in extreme want of frigates*, & therefore urged his sailing in search of you directly. That was impossible, as he wanted bread & water, but the *Terpsichore*, having refreshed at Leghorn, was dispatch'd that night—and the 30<sup>th</sup>, Capt. Hope, with the *Emerald* & *Bon Citoyen*, sail'd from this port to go towards the Levant in search of you. Three days after arriv'd from before Cadiz the *Lord St. Vincent*, armed cutter, with dispatches for you from Lord St Vincents, and he went off the same day. We know also by Lord St Vincent's letter to me of the 15<sup>th</sup> of July, of which a copy is inclosed, that



the *Aigle* and *Thalia* are on their passage to join you, & the *Seahorse* is supposed by his Lordship to have joined you long ago. What a very unlucky business it is that not one of these should have joined you. You will see also that the Portuguese squadron is supposed on its way to join you. God send you may all meet soon, and be able to unkennel the cunning fox who must be skulking in some hole to avoid you, for Gen<sup>l</sup> Acton assures me he has certainly not got back to Toulon. The French give out that he has passed the Dardanelles, but be assured that no certain tidings of the French armament have come to Naples since the last ship left Malta the 19<sup>th</sup> of June.

'As soon as I received your packet to-day I went to Gen<sup>l</sup> Acton and read your letters to him, abuse and all—for, indeed, you have reason to be provoked. However, you will see by his Excy<sup>s</sup> letter, which I have just received & is inclosed, that from yesterday the case is altered. The treaty between the Emperor & this Court is come & ratified, so that the ports of the 2 Sicilies are from yesterday open to the King's ships without limitation, and His Imperial Majesty will defend the King of Naples if attacked on account of his opening his ports to the British fleet. You will see by the general's letter how anxious their Sic<sup>n</sup> Majesties are that you should not go far from hence before you hear something sure with respect to the position of the enemy. You must be the best judge, and I can not pretend to advise. M<sup>r</sup> Littledale is, as I understand, on board the *Seahorse* frigate. Cap<sup>t</sup> Dixon is here in the *Lion*, with spare yards, ropes, &c., for your squadron, he had an engagement with 4 forty-gun Spanish frigates, & has brought me the *Dorothea* in here. Cap<sup>t</sup> Bowen of the *Transfer* will bring you the account of the gallant action, & the *Lion* himself hopes to join you in a few days.

'The Romans on the borders of this kingdom are in arms & cutting the throats of the French, whose robberies they can no longer endure. 500 Poles & fifty French cavalry came out of Rome to attack the Romans *Peeraits*, but they were surrounded by three thousand & cut to pieces the day before yesterday. God knows how this will end, but I know the King of Naples ought not to lose a moment of time in marching forward under the pretence of saving the effusion of blood of their friends the French. I do not cease preaching, but God knows if they will listen to me. However, they are eternally in council. I gave your list of wants for the *Vanguard* to Gen<sup>l</sup> Acton, who desires me to tell you he will do all in his power to get every article ready for you in time, but complains that L<sup>d</sup> S<sup>t</sup> Vincent has seized upon the R. of Naples's cargo of masts at Gibraltar. I will send a copy of your letter as you desire to L<sup>d</sup> Spencer, & the letter to L<sup>dy</sup> Nelson by a Neapolitan messenger, who goes directly to London the day after to-morrow. God bless you, my dear friend; it is late at night. Capt. Bowen goes off early to-morrow, & I hope in God he may meet with you at Syracuse.'

329. A.L.S. from Admiral Nelson to Sir.W. Hamilton. Dated *Vanguard*, off Mouth of the Nile, August 8th, 1798. 2 pages 4to., with Super-scription. [H.]

'Almighty God has made me the happy instrument in destroying the enemy's fleet, which I hope will be a blessing to Europe. You will have the goodness to communicate this happy event to all the Courts in Italy, for my head is so indifferent that I can scarcely scrawl this letter. Captain Capel\*, who is charged with my dispatches for England, will give you every information. Pray put him in the quickest mode of getting home. You will not send by post any particulars of this action, as I should be sorry to have any accounts get home before my dispatches. I hope there will be no difficulty in our getting refitted at Naples. *Culloden* must be instantly hove down, and *Vanguard* all new masts and bowsprit. Not more than four or five sail of the line will probably come to Naples; the rest will go with the prizes to Gibraltar. As this army never will return, I hope to hear the Emperor has regained the whole of Italy. With every good wish, believe me,' &c.

'I have intercepted all Buonaparte's dispatches going to France; this army is in a scrape, and will not get out of it.'

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\* Captain, afterwards Sir Thomas Bladen Capel, 1776–1853, fourth son, by his second wife, of William, 4th Earl of Essex. He was promoted to the Vice-Admiral of the Blue in 1825.

330. A. L. S. (in French) from the Marquis de Niza\* to the same. Dated 'Prince Royal, dans la Baye de Naples,' August 11th, 1798. [H.]

'Je viens de recevoir votre lettre dans laquelle vous me dites que le Général Acton, après avoir su mon intention au sujet de ma jonction avec l'Escadre de l'Amiral Nelson, n'avoit rien à me proposer de la part de cette cour, et ainsi je vais sans délai chercher à Syracuse des nouvelles de l'Amiral Nelson, avec le quel je tâcherai de faire ma jonction aussitôt que possible.

'Si quelque raison pouvoit empêcher ma jonction avec l'escadre de Sa Majesté Britanique, et que cette raison n'empêche pas l'*Incendiaire* de s'unir à la ditte Escadre, soiez sûr que je ne manquerai pas de l'envoier.

'Je mets à la voile dans ce moment, et j'espère dans peu me trouver vis-à-vis de Syracuse. J'ai l'honneur d'être,' &c.

331. A. L. S. from Admiral Nelson to the same. Dated August 12th, 1798. 1 page 4to., with Superscription and Seal. [H.]

'As the greater part of this squadron is going down the Mediterranean, we shall not want the quantity of wine or bread ordered; therefore what is not already prepared had better be put a stop to. I will settle all the matter, if ever I live to see Naples. I have the satisfaction to tell you the French army have got a complaint amongst them caused by the heat, and nothing but water, which will make Egypt the grave of the greater part. Ever yours,' &c.

332. A. L. S. from Capt. Dixon† to the same. Dated 'Candia in sight, Aug<sup>t</sup> 23' (1798). 2½ pages 4to. [H.]

'Cap<sup>t</sup> Gage,‡ of the *Terpsichore*, will bring you the most glorious news, that of the total overthrow of the French fleet, as follows:

Guerrier.	Spartiate.	} Taken.
Conquérant.	Aquillon.	
Peuple Souverain.	Franklin.	
Tonant.	Heureux.	
L'Orient blown up and burnt.		Timoleon burnt.
Guillaume Tell.	} Escaped.	
Généreaux.		

'This noble action took place on the 1<sup>st</sup> Aug<sup>t</sup>, the gallant Nelson led in at the head of his fleet. As Cap<sup>t</sup> Gage will tell you in person, I will not keep him one moment to deprive you & dear Lady Hamilton of hearing it, a moment later than otherways you wou'd hear them. Joy to you & Lady H. on this happy termination of the marine war in these seas. The Monster is swept away. The lines are all in health, and, altho' they would have been glad to have had a finger in the pye, they are too loyal to wish the least procrastination to so great & glorious a battle, which promises so much advantage to our dear country.

'Joy to the King of the Sicilies, Naples, &c. are in perfect safety.'

333. A. L. S. from Admiral Nelson to the same. Dated *Vanguard*, September 7th, 1798. 3 pages 4to. [H.]

'The *Culloden* sails so heavy, by having a sail under her bottom in order to stop her leak, that it has caused me to be a much longer time than I can at present spare to make passages. I send the *Bonne Citoyenne* with this in order that everything may be prepared for the reception of the *Culloden* at Castle dell Mare (which I understand is the place where large ships heave down), and that

\* The Marquis de Niza was a Rear-Admiral and Commander-in-Chief of the Portuguese squadron at Naples and Malta.

† Captain afterwards Sir Manley Dixon, 1757-1837, entered the navy young, and served in the American War. He became a Post-captain in 1790, and at the date of the letter had just been distinguishing himself off Carthage and at the battle of the Nile. He was appointed a Rear-Admiral in 1808, Vice-Admiral 1813, and in 1819 was made K.C.B.

‡ Captain afterwards Sir William Hall Gage, 1777-1864, grandson of Thomas, 1st Viscount Gage. He was promoted to be an Admiral in 1821, and was a Lord of the Admiralty from 1841 to 1846.



every necessary order may be given for her assistance, for I do not wish her to anchor at Naples. It is, I hope, in preparation for the Court at Naples to assist in destroying the French army in Egypt, for, if all their shipping are destroyed, the army cannot exist; and, if this opportunity is lost by Naples, such another can never be expected to offer. Our squadron quits the blockade, September 30th, having no provisions, and, if I am not furnished with the means of continuing it, the French will get into Syria (which at present they cannot do for want of their stores), and then I am told they can hold out, which in Egypt they cannot do.

'I have sent an express to Constantinople, and requested Mr. Jackson\* to urge the Grand Signior, by every regard for his own preservation, to send an army into Syria, and his fleet and bombs to destroy Alexandria and all the stores in it. I am writing to the Marquis de Niza, but I fear he will not obey me in going to Egypt; however, I will do my duty in representing the importance of the business, and if our allies will not assist in completing what has been so gloriously begun it is not my fault, and too late they will repent it. I am ignorant if the Portuguese are at war with the Grand Signior, therefore I send you my letter to the Marquis de Niza, which you will not deliver if the two nations are at war. If the letter is delivered, I trust you will (if opportunity offers) say everything which can induce these folks to be ready to sail the moment of my arrival; for myself, I hope not to be more than four or five days at Naples, for these times are not for idleness. With my very best respects to Lady Hamilton, believe me, yours, &c.

334. A. Draft of Letter S. from Sir W. Hamilton to Admiral Nelson.

Dated Naples, September 8th, 1798. 4 pages folio. [H.]

'It is impossible, my dear Sir Horatio, for any words to express in any degree the joy that the account of the glorious & compleat victory you gain'd over the boasted French fleet at the mouth of the Nile on the first of August occasioned at this court & in this city. Cap<sup>t</sup> Capel arrived here on Monday last about one o'clock in the afternoon, and was off the next day with your dispatches for our Government, and which I hope will be the first authentic accounts they will receive of the ever-memorable battle of the Nile—a battle I believe of the greatest importance that was ever fought, the expected good consequences of which are incalculable. History, either ancient or modern, does not record an action that does more honor to the heroes that gained the victory than the late one of the first of August. You have now completely made yourself, my dear Nelson, immortal. God be praised, and may you live long to enjoy the sweet satisfaction of having added such glory to our country, and most probably put an end to the confusion and misery in which all Europe wou'd soon have been involved. This country feels its immediate good effects, and their Sicilian Majesties, their ministry, and the nation at large, are truly sensible of it, and loudly acknowledge eternal obligation to your undaunted courage and steady perseverance. You may well conceive, my dear sir, how happy Emma and I are in the reflection that it is you, Nelson, our bosom friend, that has done such wonderous good in having humbl'd these proud robbers and vain boasters. See in the *Malta Gazette* inclosed in the packet IV., and read if you can, without laughing the words at the bottom of page 5: "Une seule nation. . . . je me trompe un seul Gouvernement—est encore l'ennemi de la France et le votre. Le Cabinet de Londres conspire contre la paix et l'humanité; mais reposez vous sur les guerriers françois du soin de le soumettre, de punir, d'abaisser l'orgueil de l'Angleterre. Elle apprendra bientôt que la victoire est fidèle aux François sur les deux élémens. En vain ses vaisseaux fatigueront de leur poids les mers qui vous entourent; ses soldats n'oseront toucher le sol de votre isle: ou s'ils paroissent ils y trouveront comme à Ostende le déshonneur ou la mort," &c. According to your wish, I did not lose a moment. I lost no time in sending off Cap<sup>t</sup> Capel, and, that he might get on with speed & security, I obtained from Gen<sup>l</sup> Acton the permission that he should go as far as Vienna with one of the best Neapolitan Cabinet messengers; he is gone by Manfredonia, & from thence one of His Si<sup>ca</sup> Maj<sup>ty</sup> Boats to Trieste. Capel is a fine young fellow, and Emma

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\* Mr. Francis James Jackson was at that time Ambassador to Turkey. He went in the same capacity to France in 1801, to Denmark in 1807, and to the United States in 1809.

and myself are very fond of your *élève*, now Capt. Host, who brings you my dispatches. He is a natural good & warm character. I send you inclosed the copies of all the important despatches and letters from Malta, in number 12, which Capt. Bowen, of the *Transfer*, took in his way to join you & sent to me. The originals I have sent by Cap<sup>t</sup> Capel to Lord Grenville; you will see by these letters the miserable state of Malta, & I have asked Gen<sup>l</sup> Acton for the freshest intelligence which he has received from Malta that I may send it to you. I really should not be surprised if, on your appearance before Malta, the Maltese should rise and massacre all the French, whom they detest most cordially.

‘It looks here as if the peace with the French Republic could not possibly hold much longer, but they seem to be watching & waiting for the Emperor’s motions. Cap<sup>t</sup> Capel’s arrival at Vienna with your glorious news will, I hope, determine that wavering Government to take a firm & decided part. The K. of Naples has just raised 50 thousand men more, & has 30 thousand ready in tolerable discipline. Italy might be cleared of these raggamuffins in a month’s time. They must learn of you. You did not wait for daylight to attack the French fleet on the 1<sup>st</sup> of Aug<sup>t</sup>, nor for the arrival of your four ships from Alexandria, nor did the *Culloden’s* being ashore prevent your falling upon the enemy directly like a hawk on its prey; that is the way to do business. *Audendo agendoque res publica crescit—non iis consiliis quæ timidi cauta apellant.* How proud I am of feeling myself an Englishman at this moment. Great Britain alone has truly faced the enemy in support of the good cause, and Sir Hor. Nelson is the greatest hero of that Great Britain.

‘Adieu, my dear & brave friend,’ &c.

335. Doc. S. ‘From Sir Horatio Nelson to Lady Hamilton.’ Dated *Vanguard*, September 13th, 1798. 1 page folio. [H.]

‘FORCE OF THE ENGLISH AND FRENCH FLEETS AT THE BATTLE OF THE NILE.

ENGLISH.	Number of				FRENCH.	Number of		How dis- posed of.
	Guns.	Men.	Killed.	Wounded		Guns.	Men.	
Vanguard...	74	595	30	75	L'Orient ... ..	120	1010	Burnt.
Orion ...	74	590	13	29	Le Franklin ... ..	80	800	Taken.
Culloden ...	74	590	...	...	Le Tonnant ... ..	80	800	Taken.
Bellerophon	74	590	49	148	Le Gu[e]rrier ... ..	74	700	Taken.
Defence ...	74	590	4	11	Le Conquérant ... ..	74	700	Taken.
Minotaur ...	74	640	23	64	Le Spartiate ... ..	74	700	Taken.
Alexander...	74	590	14	58	Le Timolien ... ..	74	700	Burnt.
Audacious	74	590	1	35	Le Souverain Peuple	74	700	Taken.
Zealous ...	74	590	1	7	L'Heureux ... ..	74	700	Taken.
Swiftsure ...	74	590	7	22	Le Mercure ... ..	74	700	Taken.
Majestic ...	74	590	50	143	L'Aquillon ... ..	74	700	Taken.
Goliath ...	74	590	21	41	L'Artémise ... ..	36	300	Burnt.
Theseus ...	74	590	5	30	La Sérieuse ... ..	36	300	Sunk.
Leander ...	50	343	...	14	L'Hercule, Bomb. ...	...	50	Burnt.
			218	677	La Fortune ... ..	18	70	Taken.
					Le Guillome Tell ...	80	800	Escaped.
					Le Généreux ... ..	74	700	Escaped.
					La Justice ... ..	40	400	Escaped.
					La Diane... ..	40	400	Escaped.

Complement of men on board the French ships burnt, taken, and sunk at the battle of the Nile, as by certificates from commissaries and officers of the different ships... ..	...	8930
Sent on shore by Cartel, including the wounded, as by certificates from Captain Barry of <i>L'Alceste</i> ... ..	3105	
Escaped from the <i>Timolien</i> ... ..	350	
Escaped from <i>L'Hercule</i> bomb ... ..	50	
Officers, carpenters, caulkers, &c., prisoners on board the fleet ...	200	
	3705	
Kill'd, drown'd, burnt, and missing ... ..	5225	



336. A. L. S. from the same to Sir W. Hamilton. Dated September 13th, 1798. 1 page 4to. [H.]

'The Marquis de Niza is returned from Egypt; I have waylaid him to try to get him to cruize off Malta, but I never expect any real service from that squadron. I am sending the *Flora* to Egypt to beg Captain Hood to stay as long as possible. I hope to get the ships ready to return to him early in October—that army must be destroyed. I beg my best regards to Lady Hamilton. Captain Nisbet, who you remember a boy, is the bearer of this letter. Ever yours,' &c.

'P.S.—Pray have the order ready for the *Culloden* to go to Castel-de-la-Mare without anchoring.'

337. A. L. S. from the same to the same. Dated September 15th, 1798. 1½ pages 4to. [H.]

'Your highly flattering letter I received yesterday by Cap<sup>t</sup> Hoste, who I have sent to the Earl St. Vincent, and with him every paper you sent me. The *Thalia* (who has *Vang*<sup>d</sup> in tow, having this morning lost her jury-foremast, &c.) will sail for the Earl St. V<sup>t</sup> in 24 hours after my arrival at Naples; therefore, if you have any letters to go that way, pray have them. With your permission and good Lady Hamilton's, I had better be at a hotel; it will not deprive me of being with you long enough to tease you, and, as I must have much business with every officer, it may be more convenient. I am truly sensible of your & her Ladyship's goodness, & leave this matter to your determination; if you agree with me, pray order your servant to get me some apartments. I send an ans<sup>r</sup> to Sir J. Acton's very handsome letter, which I request your Excellency will have the goodness to cause to be delivered. As I hope to be only a few hours after my dear friend Trowbridge, I shall finish my letter by assuring,' &c.

338. A. L. S. from Pasquale de Paoli\* to (Sir W. H.). Dated London, September 16th, 1798. 2 pages 4to. [H.]

Will your Excellency allow an old and devoted friend to remind you of his service, and at the same time to thank you for the courtesy you have shown to two of my countrymen, Lieutenant Colonel Colonna di Giovellina and Signor Gianvalerio Valentini, honest men and of influence in the island, who may truly, on occasion, prove more useful than many others. For this reason I beg of you to continue them your valuable protection, and recommend to your care the enclosed letters, because then they will secretly reach their retreat, which is well known to you as they inform you. This letter contains advice that I have sent for them a bill of exchange of fifty pounds sterling through Sign. Saffrey to the English merchant, Mr. Macaulay, which they will divide in equal shares between themselves and Colonel Terrandi. If Colonel Terrandi has not yet arrived, he will not delay long. Mr. Macaulay, not knowing these gentlemen, is directed by Sign. Saffrey to address himself to your Excellency. Your good heart, always ready to oblige, will excuse the fresh trouble which I bring you, and I wish in exchange you would honour me with some command wherein I could show you the sincerity of my attachment, & the respectful esteem with which, &c.

339. A. L. S. (in French) from the Marquis de Niza to Sir W. Hamilton. Dated '*Prince Royal*, devant *Malltre*,' 23rd September, 1798. 2 pages 4to. [H.]

'Je vous prie d'avoir la bonté de remettre à Sir Horatio Nelson la lettre ci-jointe. Je n'ai pas osé lui écrire en Anglois, de peur de commettre beaucoup de fautes;

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\* Pasquale de Paoli, 1726–1807, the celebrated Corsican patriot. When the island was transferred by the Genoese to France, Paoli was compelled to seek refuge in England, where he obtained a pension. On the breaking out of the French Revolution he returned to Corsica, and prevailed upon his countrymen to submit to the English Government; after which he returned to London, where he died.

j'espère que vous aurez la bonté de lui dire ça, et de le prier de ma part de vouloir vous donner les nouvelles que je lui envoie au sujet de la position où se trouvent les Maltois. Je suis sûr que vous contribuerez beaucoup pour que ces braves gens soient soutenues.

'Je vous prie de faire mes plus respectueux compliments à My Lady, et de croire aux sentiments avec lesquels j'ai l'honneur d'être,' &c.

340. A. fragment\* of Letter from Sir W. Hamilton to — (?). Dated September 29th, 1798.  $\frac{1}{2}$  page folio. [H.]

'The Neapolitan messenger that was going to Vienna last night being now ordered to proceed directly for London without touching Vienna, I have only time to add that Cap<sup>t</sup> Gage in the *Terpsichore* arrived here this morning. He left Malta the 26 ins<sup>t</sup> when Sir James Saumarez† with his squadron, in conjunction with the Portugheze squadron under the command of Marq. Nizza, had summoned by a flag of truce the French to surrender and evacuate that fortress, which was refused by Mo<sup>r</sup> Vaubois, the commanding French officer at the Valette, & that Sir James Saumarez was proceeding with his squadron & French prizes to Gibraltar, having left the Portugheze to block Malta, and having, at the request of the Maltese insurgents, supplied them with plenty of ammunition & twelve hundred stand of arms. The Maltese say that the French are in the greatest want at Valetta. This Government as yet has not (at least openly) given any Assistance to the Maltese Insurgents to recover an Island which they claim as their own, and the Insurgents are fighting under Neapolitan colours. *Most extraordinary!*'

341. A. L. S. from Lord St. Vincent to Lady Townshend.‡ Dated 'Ville de Paris, before Cadiz,' September 30th, 1798. 1 page 4to.

'I have appointed young Hoste Commander of *La Martine*, the finest Sloop of War under my orders, and the best man'd, and you must work double tides with Lord and Lady Spencer to get him confirmed, for he is made what they call an Admiralty vacancy.

'Remember me kindly to Lord T., children, & grandchildren, and trust that I always am yours,' &c.

342. A. L. S. from Admiral Nelson to Sir W. Hamilton. Dated Naples, October 6th, 1798. 2 pages 4to. [H.]

'I beg leave to acquaint your Excellency that the Marquis de Gallo has (I am informed) order'd a Prize belong<sup>g</sup> to His Majesty's Brig *Transfer*, together with the property found on board her to be seized, on some pretence of being taken too near the Sicilian shore.

'I have, therefore, to request that your Excellency will immediately demand restitution of the vessel & property found on board her, and also satisfaction for unwarrantable conduct of the Marquis de Gallo (if my information is true). Your Excellency will not, I am sure, on this occasion, permit any negociation on the subject until the vessel and property is restored to the agents of His Majesty's Brig *Transfer*. I have,' &c.

'I send your Excellency Cap<sup>tn</sup> Bowen's letter to me on the subject.'

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\* The letter is endorsed in another hand, 'Postscript, Sep<sup>r</sup> 29<sup>th</sup>, 1798, of a letter from Sir W. Hamilton' (without address).

† Sir James Saumarez, 1757-1836, entered the Navy at 13, and became a Post-Captain in 1781. He distinguished himself on many occasions, and was knighted in 1793; for his services off Cadiz he received the Order of the Bath, was appointed Governor of Guernsey in 1818, was made a Rear-Admiral of Great Britain, and eventually succeeded Sir William Young as Vice-Admiral of England.

‡ Anne, Marchioness Townshend, 1754-1819, daughter of Sir William Montgomery, and second wife of George, 1st Marquis Townshend, 1724-1807, who had succeeded his father as 4th Viscount in 1767. The Marquis entered the Army, was a Colonel of dragoons, and became a Field-Marshal in 1796. He served under George II. at Dettingen, and commanded in chief at Quebec after the death of General Wolfe. He was Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland from 1767 to 1772.



343. A. L. S. from the same to the same. Dated Naples, October 9th, 1798. 1 $\frac{3}{4}$  pages 4to., with Superscription and Seal. [H.]

'I beg leave to submit to your Excellency the propriety of having a note signed by this Government, that if Malta falls into the hands of the King of the Two Sicilys, during the time His Majesty's fleet is in these seas, that all the French ships of war which may be found in the harbour shall be deliver'd to me in the instant of surrender, with everything on board them, and with great deference to your Excellency's better judgement I beg leave to state that in case Naples should at any future time be forced or inclined to cede Malta, neither would it be proper to endeavour to get an article signed that Malta shall never be ceded to any power without the consent of the King. I should not have presumed to mention this subject was it not in my opinion of great importance to our commerce in the Levant. I have the honour to be, &c.\*

344. A. L. S. from the same to the same. Dated October 15th, 1798.  $\frac{3}{4}$  page 8vo. [H.]

'I send you the recipe to make spruce beer and a bottle of the grounds to work it. God bless you & Lady Hamilton.'

345. A. L. S. from Admiral Nelson to Sir W. Hamilton. Dated October 16th, 1798. 1 page 4to., with Superscription. [H.]

'As I send you all Cap<sup>t</sup> Hood's† letters, &c., I shall refer you to Cap<sup>t</sup> Waller for particulars; he will tell you of the mutiny in Bonaparte's army, and of the distress for provisions at Alexandria. God bless you my dear Sir William, &c.

346. A. L. S. from Captain Ball‡ to Lady Hamilton. Dated 'Alexander, off Malta,' October 19th, 1798. 4 pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'I cannot let slip this occasion to address a few lines to the best friend and patroness of the navy, and to assure you and Sir William Hamilton, that I shall ever retain the most lively sense of the attention and hospitality we all received at Naples through your goodness. I have brought upon myself a great deal of envy, by shewing the official order I received from you, at Mr. Head's, signed à la Nelson.

'The Marquis de Niza is a candidate for carrying you to Lisbon; old Barker§ kissed the order, and regretted that he had not a chance; but I stand more in fear of Foley|| than any one. There was a report made of his ship the day I sailed which I did not at all like; however, I shall depend upon your firmness. I trust that a very short time will put us in possession of the French ships in the harbour of Malta, viz., *Le Guillaume Tell*, of 80 guns; *La Dianne* and *La Justice*, frigates of 40 guns, besides two ships, formerly Maltese. The French would be glad of a

\* With this letter is a translation of it into French, intended for the Marquis de Gallo, and in the handwriting of Sir William Hamilton.

† Captain, afterwards Sir, Samuel Hood, 1760-1815, one of a family of famous naval commanders, being nephew of Lords Bridport and Howe, and cousin of Viscount Hood. In 1791 he commanded the *Juno* on the Jamaica Station, then served under Lord Hood in the Mediterranean, and in 1796 was appointed to the *Zealous* and distinguished himself at the Nile. In 1803 he was given the chief command on the West Indian Station. In 1808 he commanded at Corunna and was created a baronet.

‡ Alexander John Ball, 1757-1809, one of Nelson's great favourites. He was appointed Governor of Malta in 1799, was created a baronet, and in 1805 was promoted to be Admiral. He died at Malta. Coleridge, the poet, acted as Ball's secretary for some months in 1804, during a visit he paid to Malta for his health, and devoted no less than five essays to him in the *Friend*.

§ Captain George Barker, promoted to be Vice-Admiral in 1825.

|| Afterwards Sir Thomas Foley, G.C.B., 1758-1833, a distinguished officer who fought off Cape St. Vincent, at the Nile, and at Copenhagen. He was created an admiral in 1808, and was Commander-in-Chief at Portsmouth.



sufficient excuse to surrender, which they will soon have, as they are firing away their powder very fast. The Maltese have gone too far ever to recede; they keep up their spirits, and think that the English will do every thing for them—that we carry with us every where the cornucopia. I think their character partakes a little of the Corsican breed.

‘Mr. Davenport is in good health, und makes an excellent *voyageur*. He desires his best respects to you and Sir William. I inclose a letter from the boy Mrs. Cadogan sent with me. He is a good lad and promises well. My best respects to her.

‘I request that you will have the goodness to remember me to Lady Knight, Miss Knight, and all my English friends. Pray accept of my best wishes for your’s and Sir William’s health,’ &c.

347. A. L. S. from Admiral Nelson to Sir W. Hamilton. Dated off Malta, October 24th, 1798. 1 page 4to. [H.]

‘I am just arrived off this place, where I found Captain Ball and the Marquis de Niza: from these Officers I do not find such an immediate prospect of getting possession of the town, as the ministers at Naples seem to think. All the country, it is true, is in possession of the islanders, and I believe the French have not many luxuries in the town, but as yet their bullocks are not eat up. The Marquis tells me the islanders want arms, victuals, mortars, and cannon to annoy the town. When I get the elect of the people on board, I shall desire them to draw up a memorial for the King of Naples, stating their wants and desires, which I shall bring with me. The Marquis sails for Naples to-morrow morning. Till he is gone I shall not do anything about the Island, but I will be fully master of that subject before I leave this place. God bless you, is the sincere prayer of your affectionate,’ &c.

348. Copy of Letter from Admiral Nelson to the Marquis de Niza. Dated ‘On board the *Vanguard*, off Malta,’ October 24th, 1798. 1 page folio. [H.]

‘You are hereby required and directed to proceed with the squadron of His Most Faithful Majesty under your command to the Bay of Naples, and on your arrival there to use all expedition in fitting them for sea, and victual them for three months if provisions can be procured for them for that time.

‘I have written to Captain Trowbridge, of His Majesty’s ship *Culloden*, to spare you what salt provisions he is able, after victualling the ships of my own squadron to the time directed, and when the squadron under your command are fitted, you will hold yourself in constant readiness for sea.

‘*And should His Sicilian Majesty have occasion for your services, I request that your Excellency will pay every attention to his commands.*’

349. A. L. S. from Sir W. Hamilton to Admiral Nelson. Dated Caserta, October 26th, 1798. 4½ pages folio. [H.]

‘Intelligence arrives so fast from every part, that our friend Cap<sup>t</sup> Troubridge thinks proper not to wait for your return here, but to send off Cap<sup>t</sup> Waller to you in the *Emerald* with the intelligence I have furnished him with from London and Constantinople. You will see by the copys of Azara’s letters the evidence of what we knew before—that is, of the corruption and rascality of the members of the French Directory, and the certainty of the present intention of the French Republic to ruin and plunder this kingdom. I should hope the news of your most glorious and complete victory, arriving at Lisbon before the departure of Mon<sup>r</sup> Norhona for Paris, may prevent his going and stop the ruinous peace which the Court of Portugal seems to be on the point of concluding with the French Republic.

‘Cap<sup>t</sup> Troubridge has been with us here two days, and has received every honour and attention from their Silician Majestys, the young Royal Family, & Gen<sup>l</sup> Acton that his known merit justly entitled him to. The General told us

yesterday that he had received a messenger from Constantinople, & that Buonaparte's army was reduced to ten thousand men, and he promised to send me a note for you from Mr Spencer Smith, of which Troubridge will send you copies. I do not expect much more than you will find in my dispatches.

'I have seen Gen<sup>l</sup> Acton this morning; he showed me a letter from Mons<sup>r</sup> Baptiste, the Neapolitan Chargé d' Affaires at Vienna, with a message to him from the Baron Thugut in the Emperor's name, advising the King of Naples to act openly against the French at Malta as His Imperial Majesty would certainly support him. This takes off all difficulties, but I must do justice to this Government by assuring you that it was before determined that the Neapolitan army should march forward with the King at their head, and at the same time had resolved to declare it a war of religion. Gen<sup>l</sup> Mack is gone to visit the troops on the confines, is to return here on Sunday evening and only stay two hours to make his report, when he will go on at the head of a column to take a post in the Pope's state, & will send for the King when he shall think His Majesty's presence necessary. Gen<sup>l</sup> Acton shew<sup>d</sup> me a list of the army in three columns which, on paper, makes an astonishing appearance, more than 60 battalions of infantry and thirty squadrons of cavalry. The court and ministry here seem in high spirits, and they say the army is the same. They have now, I believe, really resolved on the boldest measure, & which I think with you to be by far the safest, and a short time will clear up this matter. I suppose the next Neapolitan messenger from London, who is expected daily, will bring the new treaty between Great Britain and the Two Sicilies, & you see by Lord Grenville's last letter to me that our government has already promised to keep a permanent British fleet in the Mediterranean. Emma is delighted with the idea of our sons doing homage to you in your zibeline robe and heron's feather, & diamond aigrette, expected here from the Grand Signior for you.

'I received this morning a melancholy letter from Capt. Thompson, late of the *Leander*, with the one inclosed for you. It makes one's heart bleed for what he and Cap<sup>t</sup> Barry must have suffered, but it is plain they did all that gallant officers could possibly do. I send you two printed papers from Corfu, which I got from Gen<sup>l</sup> Acton for you. There is no end of French lies and impertinence, but truth, honour, & true courage must prevail at last. The first Lieu<sup>t</sup> and other officers of the *Leander* from Ragusa are expected at Barletta, & the Marquis Gallo has wrote by my desire that they should not be detained longer in quarantine than is absolutely necessary.

'The Princess Royal has already felt labour pains, but is now well. As soon as she is delivered we shall return to Naples to be ready to receive your Excellency. I have the honour to be,' &c.

'P.S. Gen<sup>l</sup> Acton told me also this morning two important pieces of news: the first that Mons<sup>r</sup> Boulogny, the Spanish Chargé d'Affaires, had sent yesterday to Marquis Gallo a letter in Spanish from the Spanish Ministry to threaten this Court if they made war with the French Republic, & what is particular this letter came by a French messenger. The other news is that a Neapolitan merchant vessel had been taken by a French one, & came into Hières & there declared a good prize, the French Republic being at war with Naples. A boat with part of the crew of the Neapolitan vessel got off to Leghorn, & have made this deposition there.

'P.S. I have just received the enclosed letter & papers from Gen<sup>l</sup> Acton, containing the latest intelligence received by this Court, & which His Exc<sup>y</sup> thought might be interesting to you. You will observe by the general's letter that he is in some apprehension of a Spanish squadron from Carthagená. As the frigate is going to-night, I have not time to get any of Acton's papers translated for you. Your Exc<sup>y</sup> must make what you can of them. Adieu, health & happiness attend you.

350. A. L. S. from Admiral Nelson to Sir W. Hamilton. Dated 'off Malta,' October 27th, 1798. 6 pages 4to.\* [H.]

'Although I believe I shall be at Naples before the cutter, yet I should be sorry to omit acknowledging your kind letter of the 20th. When I come to Naples I can have nothing pleasant to say of the conduct of His Sicilian Majesty's



Ministers towards the inhabitants of Malta, who wish to be under the dominion of their legitimate Sovereign. The total neglect and indifference with which they have been treated, appears to me *cruel* in the extreme. Had not the English supplied fifteen hundred stand of arms, with bayonets, cartouch boxes, and ammunition, &c., and the Marquis supplied some few, and kept the spirit of these brave islanders from falling off, they must long ago have bowed to the French yoke. Could you, my dear Sir William, have believed, after what General Acton and the Marquis de Gallo had said in our various conversations relative to this island, that nothing had been sent by the Governor of Syracuse *secretly*—was the word used by us—or openly, to this island? And I am further assured that the Governor of Syracuse never had any orders sent him to supply the smallest article. I beg your Excellency will state this in confidence to General Acton. I shall most assuredly tell it to the King. The justice I owe myself, now I feel employed in the service of their Sicilian Majesties, demands it of me, and also the duty I owe our gracious King, in order to show that I am doing my utmost to comply with his royal commands.

As I have before stated, had it not been for the English, long, long ago, the Maltese must have been overpowered. Including the fifteen hundred stand of arms given by us, not more than three thousand are in the island. I wonder how they have kept on the defensive so long. The *Emerald* will sail in twenty-four hours after my arrival for Malta. At least two thousand of small arms complete, ammunition, &c., should be sent by her. This is wanted to defend themselves : for offence, two or three large mortars, fifteen hundred shells, with all necessaries, and perhaps a few artillery, two 10-inch howitzers with 1000 shells. The Bormola and all the left side of the harbour with this assistance will fall. Ten thousand men are required to defend those works, the French can only spare twelve hundred ; therefore, a vigorous assault in many parts, some one must succeed. But who have the Government of Naples sent to lead or encourage these people? A very good, and I dare say, brave old man, enervated and shaking with the palsy. This is the sort of man that they have sent, without any supply, without even a promise of protection, and without his bringing any answer to the repeated respectful memorials of these people to their Sovereign. I know their Majesties must feel hurt when they hear these truths. I may be thought presuming, but I trust General Acton will forgive an honest seaman for telling plain truths. *As for the other minister I do not understand him.* We are different men. He has been bred in a court, and I in a rough element, but I believe my heart is as susceptible of the finer feelings as his, and as compassionate for the distress of those who look up to me for protection. The officer sent here should have brought supplies, promises of protection, and an answer from the King to their memorials. He should have been a man of judgment, bravery, and *activity*. He should be the first to lead them to glory, and the last, when necessary to retreat ; the first to mount the wall of the Bormola, and never to quit it. This is the man to send. Such, many such, are to be found. If he succeeds, promise him rewards : my life for it the business would soon be over.

'God bless you ! I am anxious to get this matter finished. I have sent Ball this day to summon Gozo : if it resists, I shall send on shore and batter down the castle. Three vessels loaded with bullocks, &c., for the garrison, were taken yesterday from Tripoli : ten more are coming, but we shall have them. I had almost forgot to mention that orders should be immediately given that no quarantine should be laid on boats going to the coast of Sicily for corn. At present, as a matter of favour, they have *fourteen* days only. Yesterday there was only four days' bread in the island : luckily we got hold of a vessel loaded with wheat and sent her into St. Paul's. Once more, God bless you ! and ever believe me,' &c.

'This day I have landed twenty barrels of gunpowder (2800 lbs.) at Malta.'

351. A. L. S. from Admiral Nelson to Lord Spencer. Dated Caserta, November 6th, 1798. 2½ pages 4to. [P.]

'As the Neapolitan courier setts off from Vienna and London in a short time,

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\* This letter is very much scorched, as if it had been exposed to heat or fumigation for some time.

I have only time to tell you that I arrived with *Vanguard* and *Minotaur* in the Bay of Naples last evening, bringing with me the French garrison, 1217 men of Gozo (Gozo contains 16,000 persons). Malta in due time will, I doubt not, also surrender. I am anxious to send a squadron to Corfou, but I wish to see what this Court may have for me to do of more importance. May I presume to beg my respects to Lady Spencer, and that you will believe I am, &c.

'P.S. November 8<sup>th</sup>.—*Culloden*, *Minotaur*, a frigate and cutter, sails on Saturday the 10<sup>th</sup> for Corfou, to try if we cannot stir up an insurrection against the French. My declaration sent 3 weeks ago by a priest from hence, will have had time to circulate. A popular priest also of Cephalonia goes with Troubridge, if nothing can be done there T. goes to Alexandria, and settle all matters there. Each ship has six months' provisions; Troubridge has my orders to leave a proper naval force there, unless the Turks will undertake to continue the blockade (and effectually), of this my friend is to be a judge. The King went to the army this morning; the Queen goes to-morrow night, and on Saturday a council is to be held to consider of the propriety of taking possession of Leghorn. In the event of that being determined, I have offered to carry the troops necessary—2000 men. I have the Portuguese here, and will load them. Two frigates and a corvette, Neapolitans, are just put under my command and our loading mortars, &c., for Malta.

'I have just heard that vessel from Alex<sup>a</sup> has just arrived at Gaeta, sail'd October 16<sup>th</sup>, several came out in the night which Captain Hood was burning (in obedience to my orders, and to land all the crews to encrease misery). In the scramble this transport made her escape.

'2 p.m., October 8<sup>th</sup>. I was too late for the Courier of the 6<sup>th</sup>.'

352. A. L. S. from the same to Sir W. Hamilton. Dated *Vanguard*, Naples Bay, November 10<sup>th</sup>, 1798. 1 page 4to. [H.]

'Having ordered a squadron to block up the port of Genoa, I have to request that your Excellency will cause it to be notified to this Court that all vessels bound to Genoa, clearing out from this port after the 16<sup>th</sup> of this present month, the 26<sup>th</sup> from Sicily, and a due time from all other parts of His Silica<sup>n</sup> Majesty's dominions, I shall order to be seized and destroy'd. Your Excellency will also have the goodness to communicate the blockade of Genoa to the foreign ministers residing here. I have the honour to be, &c.'

353. A. L. S. from the same to the same. Dated *Vanguard*, November 15<sup>th</sup>, 1798. 1 page 4to. [H.]

'Will you have the goodness to write a line to Gen<sup>l</sup> Acton to beg that I may have as soon as possible the names of the reg<sup>ts</sup> intended to be embarked, with their number, in order that each reg<sup>t</sup> may be kept as much as possible together, as it may be some inconvenience to order a few ships south, &c. &c., for the officers. I will do all that business, and what money I lay out of my pocket I shall hope will be repaid me. I also wish to know the exact day and, when within a March of Naples, the exact hour the troops from camp will be on the Mole, that boats may be ready to receive them. I wish to send the corvette brig to Malta if Gen<sup>l</sup> Acton has no objection, the frigates as was arranged by us at St. Germaino.'

354. A. L. S.\* from the same to the same. Dated Naples, November 16<sup>th</sup>, 1798. 1 page 4to. [H.]

'The *Terpsichore* frigate shall sail on Sunday morning for Leghorn, & Cap<sup>t</sup> Gage shall go to Pisa or Florence (if the Marquis de Silva is not at Leghorn) and deliver the letter as directed. I hope the ministers of the Great Duke will make no difficulty in admitting the Neapolitan troops, for, if they do, Leghorn will not be the Great Duke's one week. The more I think the more I am satisfied of the

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\* His first signature here as Lord Nelson.



absolute necessity of keeping the French out of it. I know not yet the names of the Reg<sup>ts</sup>, or the numbers of each Reg<sup>t</sup> in order to arraigne the embarkation ; I was in hopes to have received it this day. The corvette I shall dispatch to Malta to-morrow, if your Excellency has any commands, the frigates will sail with me in order to keep the secret.'

355. A.L.S. from the same to Lady Hamilton. Dated 'Thursday Noon' (November 22nd, 1798). 1 page 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'Not being able to get our anchor out of the ground, allows me to say on paper that I am your & Sir William's affectionate friend. May God Almighty bless and protect you both, is the fervent prayer of your Nelson.

'P.S. Pray grant me the favour of getting well.'

356. Copy of Document. Dated *Vanguard*, Leghorn Road, November 28th, 1798. 1 page 4to. [H.]

'We, the Commanders of the troops of the King of the Two Sicilies, and of the squadron of His Britannic Majesty, now before Leghorn, demand of the Governor of Leghorn the free and instant admission of His Sicilian Majesty's troops into the town and fortress of Leghorn, and everything thereunto depending.

'If you refuse, we have powers to enforce our just demand, which will undoubtedly and instantly be done. DIEGO NASELLI, Commander-in-Chief.

'NELSON, Commander-in-Chief.

'Accordata quanto sopra, mediante la Capitolazione firmata questa sera stessa 28 Nov. 1798, alle ore sei e tre quarte, dai Vascelli delle rispittivi Corti d'Inghilterra e di Napoli.

DE LAVILETTE,  
'Genl. Govr. Interino.'

357. A. L. S. from Lord Nelson to Sir W. Hamilton. Dated November 29th, 1798. 1 page 4to. [H.]

'The thing is done, that's enough ; none but *Culloden* & *Minotaur* with me, nor can I guess were the other part of my squadron is got to. I shall sail for Naples the moment the weather moderates ; I have much to tell you. God bless you, and believe me ever,' &c.

'We have taken the *whole* Ligurian Navy—two 20-gun ships.'

358. A Mem. S. 'Nelson.' Dated *Vanguard*, at sea, December 12th, 1798. 4 pages folio.

'At 3 p.m., Wednesday, Nov. 28th., anchor'd in the N<sup>o</sup>ern road of Leghorn ; at  $\frac{1}{4}$  p<sup>t</sup>, receiv'd from Mr. Wyndham, a letter begging that I would not summons the Town 'till he had spoke with me. Gen<sup>l</sup> Naselli, who receiv'd a letter from the Duke de Sangro, having read my letter to the Gen<sup>l</sup>, as he did his to me, I thought I perceived a dislike to my having any thing to do in summoning the Town, hurt as I most undoubtedly was at this appearance, yet I desired Mr. Harryman to tell the Gen<sup>l</sup>, before Gen<sup>l</sup> Novi, that if he thought that his summons alone was proper that I had no desire to put my name to it. The General's answer was clear that he thought it best for himself alone to summons the Town, which he did, and sent an officer with it. I am certain that I was never more hurt in my life, being clearly consider'd by the General as a nothing, as a Master of a Transport. My feelings almost got the better of my prudence ; however, I considered this a sacrifice necessary for the King of Naples. As the officer was going on shore he met the Duke de Sangro and Mr. Wyndham coming on board the *Vanguard*. They very properly brought the officer back with them, and said to Gen<sup>l</sup> Naselli and myself that it was necessary that I should sign the summons. The General said he had no objection, and wish'd always to concert measures with me. I told the ministers I had no desire whatever to sign the summons unless they thought it right, which they having thought, a new summons was wrote by me, and signed by General Naselli and myself. It was carried by an English and Neapolitan Officer, and

attended by the two Ministers. At  $\frac{1}{2}$  p<sup>t</sup> 8, the Officers return'd with a paper signed by the two Ministers, all parts of which I had no objection to, except that which consider'd Leghorn as a neutral place, altho I considered this part of the paper signed by the Ministers as impossible, to be complied with for a moment after the troops were in possession, and although the Governor's acquiescence to the admission of the troops was founded in appearance on the good faith of the paper signed by the Ministers of the two courts. I thought my object was to get possession on any terms, and that I should be ready to take all or any part of the odium, of breaking them for the advantage of His Royal Highness the Great Duke and the King of Naples. The troops were immediately landed under the direction of Cap<sup>t</sup> Troubridge, &, although it blew a gale of wind, by 11 o'clock possess<sup>n</sup> was taken of the gates and Mole Head battery by 3 o'clock on the afternoon of the 29th, all the Troops' baggage & Artillery were landed, and I received a long letter from Mr. Wyndham, saying that he had heard I was dissatisfied with the terms the Duke de Sangro and himself had signed, that he considered himself *only* as my agent (which I never knew till this moment), and that, if I had not approved of the terms, I should have sent them on shore again, that they were the only ones by which the town would have been delivered up, that from my letter of the 8th, from Caserta, he thought that I would afford every protection to the Great Duke, and that I did not want to make a conquest of Leghorn &c. &c., and desiring to see me before I sail'd, hoping what he had heard was not correctly stated, and that if it was inconvenient for me to come on shore, he would come off to me. My answer was, that I had said and believed that it was impossible for Leghorn to be a neutral port, that I had no object of plunder in taking possession, and that I was ready to shed my blood in defence of the Great Duke and his rights, that I would be on shore in  $\frac{1}{2}$  an hour whether it blew or rain'd (both of which it did at the time of writing); in 5 minutes after this letter came a second, enclosing one from the Russian Minister, giving information of the intention of the French to force their privateers out of the Mole this night, and submitting to me what was proper to be done, for the case was now altered. I immediately went on shore and told Mr. Wyndham that I never would say behind his back what I would not say to his face, my belief that Leghorn could not be neutral. For instance, could a French privateer go out of Leghorn as she had done 24 hours before, take an English or Neapolitan, and bring her into port? It was impossible. The discourse was finish'd amicably, and we went to Gen<sup>l</sup> Naselli, relative to the French privateers and the numerous enemies' vessels (of England) in the Mole. My wish was for the General to seize all the privateers, and to prevent the sailing of any of the enemies (of England's) vessels 'till he received orders from his Court. The General's answer was that his Sovereign had not declared war against the French. My reply was that if he had not in reality, whatever he might have done on paper, that I never would have taken the trouble of bringing him to Leghorn. This conversation ending by the Gen<sup>l</sup>'s pledging himself to prevent any vessel quitting the Port till he receiv'd orders from his Court, and which I promised to procure as expeditiously as possible.'

359. A. L. S. from Admiral Nelson to Sir W. Hamilton. Dated *Vanguard*, Naples Bay, December 3rd, 1798. 2 pages folio. [H.]

'I beg leave to acquaint you that on the troops of his Sicilian Majesty being put in possession of Leghorn, there were laying in the Mole a great number of French privateers, and some of such force as to do the very greatest mischief to our commerce, if permitted to sail from Leghorn. The Neapolitan General commanding in Leghorn refuses to seize the French vessels, under pretence that the King of Naples is not at war with the French. I have, therefore, to request that your Excellency will demand that orders be instantly sent to the General at Leghorn for the seizure of every French vessel. I forbear making those observations which the case will allow of, as I am satisfied the General means to do what he considers right for his Sovereign, even at the expense of the British commerce.

'I have also to observe that about seventy sail of vessels calling themselves belonging to the Ligurian Republic (before called Genoa) are ready to sail,



loaded with corn, for Genoa and France; and as Genoa is equally at war with Great Britain as the French—for I consider the self-named Ligurian Republic as at present only a province of France—I submit to your Excellency the propriety of urging the Neapolitan Government not to permit the departure of the corn from Leghorn, which must expedite the entrance into Italy of more French troops. General Naselli has, at my request, laid an embargo on all vessels, till he receives the orders of his court. He sees, I believe, the permitting these vessels to depart in the same light as myself, but there is this difference between us—the General prudently, and certainly safely, waits the orders of his court, taking no responsibility on himself; I act, from the circumstance of the moment, as I feel it may be most advantageous for the honour of the cause which I serve, taking all responsibility on myself. I have the honour to be, &c.

360. A. L. S. from Lord Nelson to Lady Hamilton, Dated 'Tuesday Night' (December 4th, 1798).\* [P.]

'If you have not rec<sup>d</sup> my letter from Leghorn Roads, you will like to know that we took possession last Wednesday. I send a paper for you and Sir Will<sup>m</sup> to read, it is my private memorand<sup>m</sup> and not to be communicated. If you will have the goodness to have the carriage at the Mole, I shall have great pleasure in coming to you as soon as possible.

'God bless you for comforting me with your letters, I have had nothing else like comfort. I saw the Marq<sup>s</sup> (de Niza) at a distance in Porto Ferraio, also had Com<sup>de</sup> Cambell<sup>t</sup> on board to breakfast and lunch etc. under Monte Christo. I hope for good news from the army. Several vessels with runaways from Civita Vecchia arrived on Wednesday at Leghorn.'

361. A. L. S. from Sir Sidney Smith to Sir W. Hamilton. Dated '*Tigre*, off Malta, December 11th, 1798, 25<sup>th</sup> day since my departure from England, although I have been but 21 days *under sail*.' 4 pages folio. [H.]

'It is with the most heartfelt satisfaction that I profit by the opportunity my present situation gives me of renewing my correspondence with you after a long and painful interruption.

'I left England the 15 Nov<sup>r</sup>, arrived at Gibraltar the eighth day, staid four with Lord St. Vincent, and have flown hither on the wings of the wind on my way to Constantinople, whither I am going with full powers in conjunction with my brother<sup>‡</sup> as Minister to sign and *give effect* to all he has already agreed to on the part of our court; of this you will probably be already apprised by Lord Grenville; if not, I beg to introduce myself to you as your colleague in that quarter, & coadjutor in your efforts to give a final overthrow to the colossal power under whose rod all Europe has so long groaned, congratulating you on the success of *your endeavours* in so glorious and good a cause. You can readily conceive the gratification it will be to me to give them a blow whenever the naval force committed to my charge can reach them; it is not without regret that I quit this spot, where I see the ensign of revolt, the standard of anarchy and rebellion at the mast-head of their only remaining line of battle-ships hereabouts without exchanging a shot with her, but I hope to be off Alexandria time enough to burn a little of the *Tigre's* powder, in conjunction with my friend the *zealous Hood*, who naturally falls under my orders when we meet as being my junior, & you no doubt see the policy which dictated the measure of annexing diplomatic

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\* Nelson arrived at Leghorn on Wednesday, November 28th, and returned to Naples on Wednesday, December 5th.

† Donald Campbell, a naval commander in the Portuguese service. He was made an Admiral in 1814, and died in 1819.

‡ John Spencer Smith, Sir William's younger brother. In his youth he was page of honour to Queen Charlotte, but was subsequently engaged for many years in diplomacy, and was, at the date of the letter, Ambassador to Turkey. He died at Caen in 1840.

rank to the naval officer who will have to act in concert with the Russians and Turks, and likewise the delicacy of not superseding my brother, or annexing a stranger to him in that situation after all he has done towards bringing matters to their present favourable crisis. I need not tell you how happy I shall be to receive your advice on this occasion, or the readiness with which I shall follow it; the object of this letter is to request you to give it me freely as an old, very old friend, and as frequently as possible. You will, no doubt, mention my being so far on my way when you write to Lord Grenville. I part company with Cap<sup>t</sup> Ball to-night, and proceed to the eastward with a fair wind, having every prospect of making as quick a passage as ever was made in these seas; you know I am my own pilot, having bought my experience by hard labour in the little *Swallow*, and, when a man does not depend on timid Greeks, he can, by dint of labour and a *good look out ahead*, do more than they ever venture to attempt in navigation. The new moon comes in very *àpropos* for my archipelago sailing, and I hasten to profit by it; *àpropos* of pilotage, I beg to repeat my thanks to General Acton for his very valuable present of the survey of the coasts of Naples, together with my very best wishes for his welfare and success. I find, on looking it over, I have not that part which delineates the coast of Sicily, it being at that time unfinished, as well as I recollect; may I beg of you to procure & forward the last edition to me, for I have felt the want of it on my approach to this coast in the two last dark nights.

'If there be a proper way of conveying my best respects to his Sicilian Majesty, I know you will not omit so to do in gratitude for the gracious reception your kind presentation of me procured me. I ventured to appeal to his protection when in prison, as being persecuted under the denomination of an incendiary & violator of the laws of nations, for an act done under the order of his commanding General & Admiral at Toulon, but I beg leave now to explain that I did it merely as affording the Directory an opportunity of relinquishing their absurd persecution which they themselves began to see in that light, though they would not yield up the point to *l'infâme Pitt*. I know not whether his Sicilian Majesty's Minister at Paris ever communicated my letter to his court; if not, I dare say you will think with me that he ought; be it as it may, I am much better pleased to owe my liberty to the Royalists of France, who, I am persuaded, are the majority of the population, than to any favour of the miscreant gang that now govern that unhappy country. I know them well, and I assure you my contempt for them is so perfect that it leaves no room for any other sentiment respecting them. I shall ever act against them without rancour, but not with less energy and perseverance, my conviction being that, if ever a crusade of *preux chevaliers* was necessary, it is so now against *these infidels*, and I beg to be considered as a knight of Malta on this score if ever the order is re-established on this ground, which I think it ought.'

362. A. L. S. from Admiral Nelson to the same. Dated Naples, December 12th, 1798. 1 page 4to. [H.]

'I have to request that your Excellency will demand from this Government whether the King of the Two Sicilies is at war with a country calling itself the Ligurian Republic, or whether the King intends to protect in his ports the flag of that Republic (known to us as the Republic of Genoa) with which the King, our master, is at war, and which can only be considered as a country conquered by the French.'

363. A. L. S. from Sir Sidney Smith to the same. Dated *Tigre*, off Malta, December 12th, [17]98. 1 page 4to., with Superscription. [H.]

'I beg the favour of you to forward the enclosed letters by the German post, as likewise the two in my large letter of this day's date, according to their addresses.

'I have further to request of you to cause assistance to be given to my tender, the *Tiger Cat*, should she stand in need of any to enable her to proceed to Constantinople after me. Mr. Perry, the purser of the *Tigre*, will be answerable for any provisions Mr. Woodward may find it necessary to demand.'



364. A. L. S. from Lord Nelson to the same. Dated Naples, December 14th, 1798. 1 page 4to. [H.]

'As I have been informed that this kingdom is invaded by a formidable French Army, I think it my duty to acquaint your Excellency, for the information of the English merchants and others residing at Naples, that the three English transports in this bay have my directions to receive such effects of the English as they can stow, and that the whole squadron is ready to receive their persons, should such an event be found necessary as for them to embark. I have the honour to be,' &c.

'N.B.—I need not say that I mean valuable effects, and not household furniture. I also beg leave to recommend that anything sent on board ship should be done with as little bustle, and as much secrecy as possible.'

365. A. L. S. from the same to Commodore Campbell. Dated Naples, December 20th, 1798. 1 page 4to. [P.]

'I desire you will without a moment's loss of time proceed with two armed boats to ,\* and then you will .\*

'A person will probably be there to give you information. Relying on your judgement for this important service. I am,' &c.

366. A. L. S. from Lord Nelson to Lady Knight.† Dated Naples, December 20th, 1798. ½ page 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'Commodore Stone will take care of you ; do not be alarmed, there is in truth no cause for it. Ever yours,' &c.

367. Copy of 'Mémoire' of 'Thimoléon d'Espinay Saint Luc.' Dated Ratisbon, December 28th, 1798. 3½ pages folio. [P.]

'Qui a pour objet des effets ou valeurs trouvées sur la flotte française au combat naval d'Arbouckir provenant de propriétés de chevaliers de Malthe, ou d'autres, possesseurs conformément à la déclaration noble, et généreuse du vainqueur, le Lord Amiral Nelson.

'Thimoléon d'Espinay Saint Luc, comte du S<sup>t</sup> Empire, chevalier de l'ordre souverain de Malthe, reçu de minorité à la fin de l'année 1778, par feu son parent le grand maître de Rohan, officier du roy de France dans le régiment du Perche alors commandée par son père, volontaire gentilhomme au corp d'armée de Bourbon en 1792, adjudand à l'armée Autrichienne, et l'année suivante l'un des deffenseurs de Maestricht, successivement dans le cadre d'Allonville au service d'Angleterre, et aujourd'huy officier dans le corps de Rohan au service de l'empereur et roy ; fils du général marquis d'Espinay Saint Luc, de la promotion du 9 Mars, 1788, comte de Rosendal, et du S<sup>t</sup> Empire, députée commissaire de la noblesse Française par délibération générale du mois de Novembre 1791, reconnue et reçue en cette qualité au conseil des princes français où étoient les ministres de Russie, et de Suède, et l'amiral prince de Nassau le 6 Janvier, 1792, commandant la même année les compagnies de gentilshommes de Normandie et d'Anjou, et au siège de Maestricht en 1793, issue des sires d'Espinay qui étoient à la tête de l'armée de Guillaume le Conquérant à la fameuse bataille de Battel donné en Angleterre en 1066, ayant l'honneur d'appartenir aux rois d'Angleterre comme sortie par Jeanne de Courcy du sire de Courcy, chevalier Baneret, l'un des principaux seigneurs de la cour du roy d'Angleterre, dont le descendant du même nom est encor aujourd'huy pair de la Grande Bretagne, et par Alix d'Alençon, Jeanne de Dreux, et Jacqueline de France, dont descendent les seigneurs d'Espinay et des Hayes, gouverneurs d'Arque, et de Dieppe, et comandant dans le comté d'Eu, pour le roy d'Angleterre au 14<sup>e</sup> siècle, suivant que le tout appert par un

\* The two places marked with an asterisk are blank in the original.

† Lady Knight was the widow of Rear-Admiral Sir Joseph Knight, and the mother of Miss Cornelia Knight. She died in 1799.



procès verbal de la commune de Paris du 15 9<sup>bre</sup>, 1790, en exécution du discours du roy du 5 Février précédent, qui le reconnoit forcément descendant des anciens chevaliers conquérants de la Neustrie, de l'Angleterre, et de la ville de Paris sous le règne d'Henry IV., protestant contre le décret d'abolition de la noblesse Française comme chef de sa maison pour toutes les branches qui en existent rapportées dans l'histoire des grand officiers de la couronne de France par déclaration publiée, et imprimée, à Mons le 30 Juin, 1790, dont acte luy a été donnée à l'échiquier de Rouen au rapport du conseiller de Ménars le 27 7<sup>bre</sup> suivant, et de dame de Montvallat d'Antragues Cormont, Comtesse du S<sup>t</sup> Empire.

'Expose que la terre considérable de S<sup>t</sup> Prest, proche Chartre, et celles de Gasville et d'Allonne dans le même département appartenantes à la dame sa mère ont été saisies, de même que toutes celles de son père, par le gouvernement régicide non pas pour cause d'émigration n'étant pas domiciliés en France lors de la Révolution, mais d'abord parce que son mary avoit été employé général major, et commissaire dans le pays d'Hainaut Autrichien par lettres patentes de l'empereur avec l'agrément par écrit du Roy Louis XVI., du 31 Mars, 1790, parce qu'il avoit reçue chez luy en cette qualité le Roy et la Reine actuelle, à leurs sortie de France, et pour avoir signé, et fait signer en cette qualité la lettre de la noblesse française à feu S.M. l'Impératrice de Russie; la propriétaire fit signifier à Paris une opposition à ce séquestre, le 7 Février 1793, tant en son nom que celui de l'exposant, auquel il étoit assurée une somme de 150 milles livres pour tenir galeon à titre de légitime; et peu de tems auparavant le représentant Lacroix à Liège, qui étoit de Chartre, lui envoya renouveler à Maestricht la proposition de vendre cette terre, sans doute pour le même acquéreur qui luy en avoit desjà offert 1800 milles livres, valeur métallique, en May 1791, qu'elle a appris depuis être pour son bailly Péthion, alors maire de Paris. Le Prince Frédéric de Hesse Cassel, chevalier de l'ordre de la Jarretière, commandant dans cette place depuis la déclaration de guerre fit arrêter comme espion le porteur de propositions, mort dans les prisons de cette ville, qui étoit un ministre réformée anciennement moine, mariée à une religieuse; mais quoiqu'il ne fut pas permis, suivant les propres loix de la république, de vendre cette terre d'après la réclamation de la propriétaire avant qu'il y fut statuée définitivement et au préjudice du droit de l'exposant qui étoit entier n'étant point compris sur la fatale liste des émigrés, le pressant besoin d'argent pour l'armement de la flotte de Toulon a portée le ministre de la finance, Ramel, d'écrire à l'administration d'Eure et Loire de vendre cette terre sans délai, parce que le réclamant se trouvoit nominativement sur la liste des rassemblements que l'Angleterre avoit fait à Jersey et Guernesey pour porter le fer et le feu dans leurs patrie et pour avoir prêté serment au gouvernement ennemy de la république sauf à accorder quelques indemnités à la mère, s'il y avoit lieu; mais on sçait que ces sortes d'indemnités, s'acquittent en effets qui n'ont, pour ainsi dire, plus aucune valeur; ainsi le prix de cette terre ayant été employé à l'armement et équipement et provisions de cette flotte, le gouvernement Anglois se trouve en avoir profitée par la prise totale qu'il en a fait, et le brave et généreux Amiral Nelson, ayant rendue et offert de remettre les effets armoriées, et tout ce qui se trouveroit appartenir ou provenir des chevaliers qui n'avoient pas suivis Bonaparte, et de tous propriétaires quelconques, le chevalier d'Espinay Saint Luc, protestant par acte authentique envoyée à la langue Russe contre la perfide et honteuse capitulation de Malthe, et reconnaissant pour grand maître temporel et protecteur S. M. l'Empereur de toutes les Russies, Paul premier, sous la réserve de la suprématie spirituelle au S<sup>t</sup> Siège apostolique, espère qu'il éprouvera de la grande et noble générosité du vainqueur d'Arbouckir comme les dignes chevaliers ses confrères qui ont une propriété à réclamer une indemnité de sa légitime qui luy a été volée pour être placée sur cette flotte à cause du serment qu'on luy reproche d'avoir fait à son souverain, qui puisse aussi pour le présent faire subsister ses père et mère chargée de six enfans, dont quatre en bas âge, qui par cette raison se trouvent privées des avantages accordées à ceux qui comme eux étoient habitant et naturalisées grands privilégiés de la Belgique, ou résidents dans les pays neutres, suivant le traité de Campo Formio, ce qui les auroit mis dans le cas de recouvrir quelques parties de leur fortune et de pouvoir exister en Allemagne; et c'est pour cela que l'on n'a pas crue devoir se rendre à charge à la nation angloise, en

profitant des secours offerts à raison du grade d'officier général, mais aujourd'hui que la vente de cette terre paroist irrévocable, que l'exposant a perdu sa propriété affectée au service de l'ordre de Malthe pour la cause cy-dessus expliquée, et que le prix en a tournée au profit du trésor de sa Majesté Britannique, on ose se flatter que l'invincible héros du Nil aura égard à cette réclamation, qui est faite en conséquence de sa déclaration, et dans le cas où il faudroit actuellement s'en référer aux ministres du roy on espère qu'il voudra bien les porter à accorder au moins à cette nombreuse famille la même grâce continuée au général Martange, et autres en résidence dans les pays neutres. C'est à dire une somme équivalente à ce qui auroit été perçue depuis le passeport accordée à cet effet sur la demande de Monseigneur Comte d'Artois pour l'ambassadeur d'Angleterre à la Haye, le 12 Janvier 1795, indépendamment de l'indemnité personnelle que le réclamant a droit d'attendre d'un aussi grand et généreux gouvernement.'

368. A. L. S. from Captain Blackwood\* to Lord Nelson. Dated *Penelope*, Leghorn Roads, January 4th, 1799. 3 pages 4to. [P.]

'My publick letter, I trust, will sufficiently explain my taking upon me to deviate so materially from my orders, a step I was alone induced to take from the idea that I should be the first to communicate intelligence which I believed must be of consequence, add to which, as the wind was strong at N.E. when I sailed, I did not think that taking Palermo in my way would make much difference as to the time of my arrival on my station. I must also confess to your Lordship that I did not wish to fall in with Lord Keith, who would most probably have changed the good orders your Lordship gave me. Under these circumstances I hope to appear justified. The very kind attentions I received from your Lordship as well as from Sir W<sup>m</sup> and Lady Hamilton (an event the more flattering from the little knowledge you had of me) induces me to say that, if any arrangements should render your Lordship's return to England necessary, nothing would make me more happy than your Lordship's making every use of the *Penelope*.

'On the day of my departure from hence I was applied to, through the Consul by Mrs. Wyndham, to give a passage to the Dutchess of Sorrentino, who was thus far on her way to Palermo (a request I was the more ready to comply with, from her having letters to Sir W<sup>m</sup> and Lady Hamilton, as also from my knowledge of that Lady in England); fearing, however, to trespass too much on your Lordship's indulgence by delaying to get on my station, I am obliged to put her on shore at this place, which I regret much, as her arriving soon at Palermo is of much consequence to her affairs.

'I shall not trouble your Lordship with any detail respecting the Dutchess of Sorrentino's views in Sicily, all of which are sufficiently explained in her letters to Sir W<sup>m</sup> and Lady Hamilton. I have, therefore, only to request my best com<sup>ts</sup> may be made to Sir W<sup>m</sup> and Lady Hamilton, and, with much respect and esteem, I have the honour to be, &c.

369. A. L. S. from Sir W. Hamilton to Charles Greville. Dated Palermo, January 6th, 1799. 5 pages 4to., with Superscription and Seal. [H.]

'You have certainly the means of getting every intelligence of the singular events that have rapidly taken place in the kingdom of Naples, and from my last dispatch to Lord Granville you will hear of the King and Queen of Naples and all their Royal Family having been obliged to take refuge on board the *Vanguard*, and by the contrivance and assistance of Lord Nelson and I are safely lodged in their Palace here with a treasure in jewells and money of not less than two and a half millions sterling. Emma has had a very principal part in

\* Captain, afterwards Sir Henry, Blackwood, 1770-1851, youngest son of Sir John Blackwood. He entered the navy young, and became a Rear-Admiral in 1814. He was the bearer of the dispatches announcing the battle of Trafalgar, and was created a Baronet in 1814.



this delicate business, as she is and has been for several years the real and only confidential friend of the Queen of Naples. It is impossible for me to enter into particulars at present, as I am just got out of bed, where I was confined for some days with a fever from cold and bile. I am, however, thank God and James's powder, quite clear at this moment, and shall, I dare say, recover my strength in a few days.

'My former dispatches to Lord Grenville will have prevented his Lordship from being too much surprized at receiving one dated from Palermo. I must own, however, that I never could have imagined that a fine army of near fifty thousand effective men, commanded by Mack, allowed to be one of the best generals in Europe, cou'd moulder away and be reduced to less than 20 thousand in 22 days without ever having had anything like what cou'd be called an action, and nothing but treachery and stinking cowardice cou'd have caused such a cruel reverse, for the French were never more than seven or eight thousand effective men, and in all Italy there were not more than 27 thou<sup>d</sup> French when the Neapolitan army march<sup>d</sup> to Rome in confidence of the Emperor's army marching forward at the same time, we yet know nothing of that army. Naples pretends to be much disgusted at the departure of the Court, but you will see that it will end in their fraternizing with the French. This kingdom is certainly loyal, but it must put itself into a true state of defence, & the French must be kept out of Calabria if possible, for you know it is but 3 miles over from that coast to Messina. The French were at Fondi & in Puglia by the last accounts, & said to be reinforced, but that is all the same, as not a man of the Neapolitan army will fight, and the officers are the first to run away.

'Lord Nelson, however, has taken care that none of his Sicilian Majesty's ships of war or gun-boats shall fall into the hands of the enemy. He is the most humane and active man I ever met with. He lives always with us, and by his friendship I have at least secured all my best pictures and collection of vases on board of one of his victualling transports, but I shall probably lose a great deal of valuable furniture in my houses of Naples and Caserta. I have left my house at Naples, servants and all except two, to go on another month as if I was there, and we shall see what sort of respect the French will show me; certainly for 35 years I have been hospitable to many French travellers, and perhaps they may not plunder my house. The poor Queen of Naples is all despair, having also lost Prince Albert of six years of age in our voyage, and who died in Emma's arms of repeated convulsions. We had a violent gale of wind, stronger, Lord Nelson says, than he ever had experienced in 30 years' service, & I fear a transport, with all the Corsican emigrants under British protection and pay, are gone to the bottom. Hatchets were brought up to cut away the masts of the *Vanguard* if the gale had lasted, in short, I have so many circumstances to relate that I could fill sheets of paper; for the present it is enough to assure you we are safe, having my pictures and vases on board a good transport, and that I hope to be with you early in the spring, but cannot think of leaving their Sicilian Majesties in their present moment of distress.

'Some King's ships will certainly be going from hence to Gibraltar or perhaps to England in the spring, or it may happen that Lord Nelson, whose health is by no means robust, may like to go home about that time; if so, his Lordship would certainly take us. I really am in want of repose, having had for these six years past the whole load of business on my hands, and since the arrival of the British Fleet in the Mediterranean my labours have been doubled, and I feel age creeping upon me, but I will bear up as long & as well as I can, & not give up as my father did twenty years before he died, calling himself a dying man, and so we all are. Adieu, my dear Charles, Emma's kind love attends you.

'P.S.—Since I wrote the above we have had news from Naples of the 4th inst, which would give some hopes that the Capital may still be saved. The French having made an attack on Capua were repulsed with loss; this is the first stand the Neapolitan army has made, but I that know the *Carte du Pays* at Naples, & think that the nobility and Paglietti Lawyers are ripe for a revolution, & will, in the end, join with the French. The people are attached to the King of Naples, but you know what little dependence there can be on mobs in any country. In short, my opinion is that Ferd. IV. will soon be only King of the one



Sicily, by the grace of God and the bravery of Lord Nelson on the 1st of August.

'P.S.—What can the Emperor be doing to allow of Naples and Tuscany being lost?'

370. A. L. S. from Lady Hamilton to the same. Dated Palermo, January 7th, 1798. 8 pages 4to. [H.]

'I have only time to write you one line, as Sir William is not sure he can have a moment to spare to-day to let you know of our arrival here; we cannot enter into details of our being obliged to quit dear Naples, if you are acquainted with Lords Grenville or Spencer you will know the particulars from them—know only the *Vanguard*, Lord Nelson, brought us off with all the Royal family, & we arrived here on Christmas Day at night, after having been near lost, a tempest that Lord Nelson had never seen for thirty years he has been at sea the like; all our sails torn to pieces, & all the men ready with their axes to cut away the masts, & poor I to attend & keep up the spirits of the Queen, the Princess Royall, 3 young princesses, a baby six weeks old & 2 young princess, Leopold & Albert, the last six years old, my favourite, taken with convulsion in the midst of the storm, & at 7 in the evening of Christmas Day expired in my arms, not a soul to help me, as the few women her Majesty brought on board were incapable of helping her or the poor Royal children, the King & prince were below in the ward room with Castalcicala, Belmonte, Gravina, Acton, & Sir William, my mother their assisting them, all their attendants being so frighten'd, & on their knees praying. The king says my mother is an angel. I have been for twelve nights without once closing my eyes; for 6 nights before the embarkation I sat up at my own house receiving all the jewells, money, & effects of the Royal family, and from thence conveying them on board the *Vanguard*, living in fear of being torn to pieces by the tumultuous mob who suspected our departure, but Sir W<sup>m</sup> & I being beloved in the country saved us. On the 21st, at ten at night, Lord Nelson, Sir W<sup>m</sup>, mother, & self went out to pay a visit, sent all our servants away, & orderd them in 2 hours to come with the coach, & ordered supper at home. When they were gone we sett off, walked to our boat, & after 2 hours got to the *Vanguard*. Lord N. then went with armed boats to a secret passage adjoining to the pallace, got up the dark staircase that goes into the Queen's room, & with a dark lantern, cutlasses, pistols, &c., brought off every soul, ten in number, to the *Vanguard* at twelve o'clock. If we had remained to the next day we shou'd have all been imprisoned. But we remained 2 days in the bay to treat with the Neapolitans—but, alas, with such vile traitors what can you do? it is not a month since Mack went out with forty thousand men, & shamefully to tell those forty thousand have been frightend & beat by about six, eight, or ten at most, nor cou'd the brave, unhappy Mack make them fight, all the officers bought by the French, & all the army naturally corrupt. The gallant Mack is now at Capua, fighting it out to the last, & I believe coming with the remains of his vile army into Calabria to protect Sicily, but thank God we have got our brave Lord Nelson. The King & Queen & the Sicilians adore, next to worship, him, & so they ought, for we shou'd not have had this Island but for his glorious victory. He is call'd here—*Nostro Liberatore, nostro Salvatore*.

'We have left every thing at Naples but the vases & best pictures, 3 houses elegantly furnished, all our horses, & 6 or 7 carriages I think is enough for the vile French, for we cou'd not get our things off not to betray the Royal Family, & as we were in council we were sworn to secrecy, so we are the worst off, all the other ministers have saved all by staying some days after us. Nothing can equal the manner we have been received here; *but dear, dear, Naples* we now dare not show our love for that place, for this country is jealous of the other. We cannot at present proffit of our leave of absence, for we cannot leave the Royal family in their distress. Sir William, however, says in the spring we shall leave this, as Lord S<sup>t</sup> Vincent as order'd a ship to carry us down to Gibraltar, God only knows what yet is to become of us, we are worn out: I am, with anxiety and fatigue; Sir W<sup>m</sup> as had 3 days a bilious attack, but is now well; my dear, adorable queen, whom I love better *than any person in the world* is allso very

unwell, *we weep together*, & now that is our onely comfort. Sir William & the King are philosophers ; nothing affects them, thank God, & *we* are scolded even for shewing proper sensibility. God bless you, my dear Sir ; excuse this scrawl.

'I had a letter yesterday from Graham\* of Minorca, he is very well. I never saw him, but we are in correspondence. God bless you, give our loves to the Col '

371. A. L. S. from Charles Greville to Sir W. Hamilton. Dated St. James's, January 9th, 1799. 4 pages 4to. [H.]

'I have this moment been told by L<sup>d</sup> Spencer that a cutter will sail from Plymouth with M<sup>r</sup> Gifford for the Mediterranean ; I catch at the opportunity to write to you. We are in the affecting uncertainty as to the success of the Neapolitan arms, & the accounts from France give us reason to expect that some checks of importance have occurred, but we hope it is merely of advanced parties. 9 mails are due from Hamburgh, & the ice renders the Elbe inaccessible ; we have sent to try on different parts of the coast—so much for the public concerns. I am just told by L<sup>d</sup> Spencer that an officer on board the *Colossus* has told him there were 4 large boxes belonging to you, what they were I know not, but I dread the result of enquiry lest some of your invaluable collections may have been in those cases. This ship you have possibly heard arrived with a convoy safe to Scilly, where she drove from her anchor on a rock, and foundered in the midst of the other ships, who were all safe, & the crew alone were saved except one or two. I am still in hopes that the cases were not such as I augur. As I received a letter by the courier from L<sup>y</sup> H., dated on the 8<sup>th</sup> Nov<sup>r</sup>, in which she did not mention one word, nor has any letter from you given me any advice of embarkation of any effects of yours, and I know it would not have escaped you to direct me to provide for their reception, & to insure to a certain amount. This account has afflicted me much, & I trust you will not lose any opportunity tho duplicate or triplicate to enable me to look out in case of any future embarkation of effects, &c., & at least to cover, if not to prevent, loss. I do not say more on this occasion, for I wish to discredit what I have stated from too good authority, & I know you are as good a philosopher as myself, therefore do I not offer impertinent comfort, but join in regret. Should the unsettled fate of Italy make the deposit of fine works of art the object of safety occasion to remove them—nothing so safe as the king's ships—& a lucky hitt might repair the loss if, as I fear, the 4 boxes contained y<sup>r</sup> collection, the articles of which are invaluable & their loss irreparable ; but the reparation of the value paid is a matter of serious consideration, & the public purse will not be opened to replace it. The finance of this country is greatly supported by the amazing extent of commerce, & even at this time there seems an emulation in rendring the public supplies productive.

'The fine works of art find purchasers, & only last year the D. of Bridgwater,† L<sup>d</sup> Carlisle, & L<sup>d</sup> Gower paid £45,000 for the Orleans Collection Italian School, 300 pictures, & they are now selling, & within these ten days have sold above 30 pictures, the *Sebastian Del Piombo* for £3500.

'I have no apprehension for your personal safety, you have a safe retreat from the British fleet, & your perseverance in your station, & your attachment to the Royal Family & people of Naples do you honor, & will be the source of comfort on reflexion, may every good event attend you & them, & at all times believe me truly & aff<sup>ly</sup> yours,' &c.

'Say everything kind from me to L<sup>y</sup> H., M<sup>rs</sup> C.,' &c.

\* Colonel Thomas Graham, afterwards Lord Lynedoch, a well-known military commander in the Peninsula War, who gained the victory of Barossa. He frequently received the thanks of Parliament for his services, and Sheridan, referring to them during the retreat to Corunna, said that in the hour of peril Graham was their best adviser, and in the hour of disaster their surest consolation. He was created a peer in 1814, but refused the grant of 2000*l.* per annum which was intended to have accompanied his elevation. A highly interesting account of him is given in the *Times* for December 20th, 1843.

† Francis Egerton, 3rd Duke of Bridgwater, 1736–1803, the great founder of inland navigation in this country by the celebrated Bridgwater Canal. He died unmarried, and the greater portion of his wealth went to his nephew, George, Baron Gower, afterwards 2nd Marquis of Stafford and 1st Duke of Sutherland, 1758–1833, eldest son of the 1st Marquis of Stafford and Lady Louisa Egerton.



372. A. L. S. from the same to the same. Dated January 10th, 1799.  
1½ pages 4to., with Superscription. [H.]

'I wrote yesterday at the Levee to you, to ensure the opportunity L<sup>d</sup> Spencer gave me to send a letter. I write again this morning on the chance of its being in time for Major Gifford, being more anxious concerning the state of the *Colossus* since I heard how much you was interested. I find that she sunk in deep water near shore, & it is probable when fine weather comes some things may come ashore, at least, I augur well from this circumstance. They took on board L<sup>d</sup> Shouldham,\* & to avoid the superstition of sailors put him in a lead coffin & enclosed it in a long box, to be unlike a coffin. Some one who knew that it was between decks & likely to be got at, told the Scilly people there was great treasure in a box, describing it, & when the guns, &c., had broken all before them, & the ship was on its side, they got the box, & you may suppose their disappointment when their prize proved a dead admiral. I find your boxes were deep in the hold; therefore, till the ship is to pieces, they will remain there, & even if they withstand the shocks of a ship, whose timbers, &c. give way to their force, it is a hope but a forlorn one.

'I am desired by Symmonds to send a letter for T. Foley to your care, & I cannot avoid mentioning to you Cap<sup>t</sup> Broughton, who is under Admiral Nelson & commands a fire ship. Admiral Goodall† has wrote in duplicate to recommend him to Nelson, & he has been long on L<sup>d</sup> Spencer's list as my protégé; he is an officer of so distinguished character for his standing that I have been urgent to secure his promotion, & when L<sup>d</sup> Spencer sent him to serve with Nelson he told me he could not shew his desire to oblige me more than by sending him into the Mediterranean to serve under that Admiral, who would give him opportunity to distinguish himself. Adieu once more. My kind love to L<sup>y</sup> H., & believe, &c.

373. L. S. from Lord Nelson to Sir W. Hamilton. Dated Palermo, February 5th, 1799. 2 pages 4to. [H.]

'An official letter on the subject of the complaint of Prince Liuzi, Secretary of State, relative to some armed boats having boarded a vessel in quarantine. He affirms that gross misrepresentations have been made, and assures Sir William that his orders are the very strictest as to the regulations on which so much depends the health of all countries.'

374. A. L. S. from Captain Ball to Lady Hamilton. Dated *Alexander*, off Malta, February 5th, 1799. 2½ pages folio, with Superscription. [P.]

'I will not attempt to describe how much I feel flattered by the attention with which I have been honoured by your Ladyship and Sir William Hamilton, for which I am in a great measure indebted to Lord Nelson's friendship. You both feel such a regard for him, that you never lose an occasion of proving it. I may be quoted as a strong instance. What a fortunate circumstance it was to have the *Vanguard* at Naples when you were obliged to quit your hospitable mansion. I cannot express my astonishment and sorrow when I first heard of the political revolution which the Jacobins have effected. I hope the Sicilians will not catch the infection: they are already spreading reports to prejudice the people against the King; they have propagated that the first edict he issued on his arrival at Palermo was to restrict shooting, and threatening severe punishment on any person caught in particular districts.

\* Molyneux, Lord Shouldham, entered the navy at the age of ten, and became a Captain in 1746. In 1772 he was Governor of Newfoundland, became Rear-Admiral in 1775, and in 1793 Admiral of the White. He died at Lisbon in August, 1798.

† Samuel Cranston Goodall became a Captain in 1762, a Rear-Admiral in 1793, Vice-Admiral in 1794, and Admiral in 1799. In 1793 he took one of the divisions of the fleet out to the Mediterranean, when, during the occupation of Toulon, he acted as Governor of that city. In 1794 he commanded under Admiral Holtham, but at the end of 1795 he applied for leave to strike his flag, being disappointed, it was said, at not succeeding to the command of the fleet.



'I wish the Lazzaroni would send all the traitors and Jacobins to Nelson's Island, Bequier (Aboukir) Bay, or give them to our friends, the Mammalouks and Bedouins. I am sorry that a butcher is at the head of the Neapolitan mob, as he may cause a good deal of blood to be shed.

'Lord Montgomery\* and Major Gordon have been on board the *Alexander*. I am sorry their short stay will not give me an occasion of proving my desire of being useful.

'I am prevented writing to Sir William, and thanking him for his interesting letter, which he did me the honour to send, but I shall do it by the *Vanguard*. I cannot get the Maltese to meet and transact business; they oblige me to be with them so much, that the fatigue has considerably impaired my health. However, it will soon be over. I beg my best respects to Sir William. I have the honour to be,' &c.

375. A. L. S. from Lady Elizabeth Foster to Lady Hamilton. Dated D[evonshire] H[ouse], February 8th, [17]99. 2½ pages 4to. [P.]

'This letter will be given you by Mrs. C. Lock,† and whilst I request of you to shew every attention in your power to Mr. and Mrs. Lock, whom you will find most uncommonly amiable and pleasing, and a very valuable acquisition to you, forgive me if I cannot help availing myself of the same opportunity to express to you the universal tribute of praise and admiration which is paid to the very great courage and feeling which you have shown on the late melancholy occasion. I feel most excessively anxious about the poor Queen, the King, and their present situation. All England takes part in their misfortunes, and their fate seems to interest more than any event has done since the great dreadful one at Paris. I pray God protect them.

'I must trouble your Ladyship with a request also to let me know what has become of a person you was very good to, poor Miss Ashburner. I am very anxious about her, and wrote to her twice without receiving any answer—and, pray, have the poor Rosses escaped to Sicily? The Duchess of [Devonshire] begs her best compliments to your Ladyship and Sir William Hamilton, to whom I beg to add mine, and pray believe me, yours sincerely,' &c.

376. A. L. S. from Lord Nelson to Captain Ball, with a Postscript by Lady Hamilton. Dated Palermo, February 9th, 1799. 1 page 4to.

'I send you the *Benjamin*, Capt<sup>n</sup> Thompson, but I beg you will endeavour to keep him out of the way of the Tunisan cruizers, for I should be sorry if any action took place which might loosen our friendship with the Bey. We have nothing new here as yet, all is quiet at Naples and its environs. The French flag is flying, and they have fitted out the frigate and brigg, and I have my fears they will drive off the *Mutine*. When I get the *Minerva* she shall cruize off Naples, God bless you! Sir W<sup>m</sup> & Lady Hamilton desire their regards. You are loved by the fair and esteem'd by the brave; so say yours,' &c.

'I have only time to say, my dear friend, that Sir William & I shall be most happy to see you *make haist*. Do, or else *entre nous* Fate will carry me down. I cannot enter now into the false politicks of this country. *A ora*, ever yours.'

377. A. L. S. (marked private) from Sir Sidney Smith to Sir W. Hamilton. Dated '*Tigre*, off Andros in the Archipelago,' February 22nd, 1799. 2 pages 4to. [H.]

'I have to acknowledge and thank you for your long letter of 3<sup>d</sup> Jan<sup>y</sup> from Palermo, containing the melancholy details of the late events in that quarter. The first sensation of regret with me on these occasions invariably gives way to

\* Archibald, Lord Montgomerie, 1773–1814, eldest son of Hugh, 12th Earl of Eglinton. He was a Major-General in the army.

† Mr. Charles Lock was for some time Consul-General at Naples. He afterwards went on a mission to Egypt and the Levant, and died of the plague in the lazaretto at Malta in 1801.

that of indignation, and an inward desire to clip the wings and pare the claws of these merciless harpies. I accordingly work double tides, and don't despair of sending a beseiging force to do it. I am discouraged from writing to you at length to Palermo from the paragraphs mentioning your idea of quitting it for England. If you don't come back, as the next best thing to having my brother\* near me, to the southward, is to have him on the interesting scene of action to the westward of my station, I wish you would give the hint of his being appointed your successor, you know he is *au fait des affaires*.'

378. A. L. S. from Lady Hamilton to William Beckford. Dated Naples, February 23rd, 1798. 4 pages 4to.

'Sir William desired me to write to you and reccomend Mr Benelli,\* the tenor singer, to sing at the opera house in London. You will find him very modest, amiable, good, and an excellent singer, not one of those that gives themselves airs. He will sing as long as you like; he composes, and is excellent on the pianoforte. Pray, do, my dear sir, protect him, he will suit you and your stile of singing, as he shall soon be in England.

'What a pleasure it will be for us to come to dear Fonthill; to walk forth together, and you to ciceroni us to your great towers, little towers, your ridings, in short, to all your improvements. How have we often wished for you at Naples, for, believe me, Sir William loved you dearly; as to myself, I will not tell you whether I do or not, it will be a greater pleasure for you to find it out. Indeed, I do not, nor shall I ever, forget your kindness to me, nor the happy days we passed at Fonthill, & I hope we shall still pass many more such.

'Sir W<sup>m</sup> is very well and desires his love to you, and believe me, dear sir, your,' &c.

379. A. L. from Lord Bristol to Sir W. Hamilton. Dated Venice, March 28th, [17]99. [H.]

'I write a triplicate of this day's intelligence as it appears to me equally important and certain.

'The night before last Gen<sup>l</sup> Lusignan arrived at nine o'clock at the inn, the Golden Eagle of Padua. His Excellency went immediately to bed, but his aid de camp informed us they had met a courier of P. Charles† carrying the news that his R. H. had attack'd & beaten one whole wing of the French near Bregentz, and that when he came away the whole army of Jourdan was in perfect flight.

'Yesterday, Wednesday morn, just as I was mounting my horse, arrived an officer express from the army at Legnago with the glorious news that the Austrians had totally beaten those execrable highwaymen, the French, between Legnago & Bevilacqua, taken above 5000 prisoners, & laid 3000 of Mess<sup>rs</sup> les Perruquiers dead on the spot, and were pursuing the rest.

'In this case you may expect the universal revolt of all the Cisalpine, since, as I came from Milan to Verona, nothing could be more loud, clamorous, or general, than the discontent of all ranks of men—not a single recruit could be obtained.

'Dear Sir W<sup>m</sup>, make the K. of Naples sensible how very thankfull I am to him for the protection he so readily & so effectually granted to my property at Rome.

'You once mention'd to me a wish you had to quit y<sup>r</sup> political situation at Naples, but not your residence there, provided you c<sup>d</sup> find a person who would cede to you a proper share of the emoluments.

'I have a relation who, I believe, could obtain the minister's consent, & at the

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\* Antonio Peregrino Benelli, 1771–1830. An Italian tenor singer who made his first appearance at Naples in 1790. In 1798 he came to England, where he was favourably received, but went to Dresden in 1801 and remained attached to the theatre there until 1822, when he lost his voice. He then became professor of singing at the opera at Berlin, but quarrelling with Spontini retired into Saxony, where he died of grief and more or less in want.

† The Archduke, Ferdinand Joseph, 1755–1806, fourth son of Francis I. and Maria Theresa, a General in the army, and Captain-General of Lombardy.



same time satisfy your desires, if they remain the same as they were. You may direct to me under *cover* to—il Conte Giovanni Brigido, Trieste,—and the letter will not miscarry.

‘If the Cisalpine be well managed, it may be put into universal insurrection, for nothing can equal the general penury, distress, and discontent there reigning.

‘Poor dear Mack is removed to Briançon in Dauphiné. Adieu, adieu.’

380. Doc. (in Italian) endorsed by Sir W. Hamilton : ‘Plan of Prince Trabea to send a Flag of Truce to Genoa, & other proposals, not approved by Lord Nelson.’ 2½ pages folio. [H.]

On all accounts it is necessary to render less unpleasant the consequences of war, because otherwise, owing to the present position of the belligerent nations, our products remaining on our hands, as it was once the case in America with the metal which we are in need of, we shall not be able to perform our many duties, which are indispensable and useful at the same time.

I would propose, therefore, that a ship with a flag of truce should be sent to Genoa in order to make arrangements for the weekly departure from here (Naples), to Genoa and back to this capital, of a sea mail for the reciprocal convenience of trade, as such a mail might also carry important messages, and, if the Government of Genoa should agree, it might also send here a ship with a flag of truce which would be welcome here, such ships as described proving of reciprocal and necessary advantage to merchants for the transmission of letters and bills of exchange, no reprisal for this to be permitted.

That the said ships with a flag of truce should have no other crew than of subjects of their respective nation, and that in case they should carry passengers each government may be at liberty to forbid their landing.

That the duties on messages, or on exportation or importation of goods, should not be reckoned at a rate superior to the tariff of the year 1738.

To better meet the present situation and engagements, the most excellent Admiral Lord Nelson, himself a naturalized Palermitan, should grant for six months to twenty ships with Sicilian flag free English passports, which would enable them to export goods, corn, etc., to Lisbon, Gibraltar, or Mahon, and do a coasting trade in Spain to dispose of their cargoes and buy metal in exchange for other products and then return home.

If the most excellent Chev<sup>r</sup> Hamilton and Lord Nelson, both devoted to the service of His Majesty the King of the Two Sicilies and interested in all the possible advantage of this kingdom and its inhabitants, will think fit to approve of this plan, and guarantee the fulfilment of what is proposed in it, a list of the above-mentioned Sicilian ships will be duly forwarded, with the details concerning the quality and the quantity of products which each of them will be enabled to carry, and orders to keep in readiness the first ship with a flag of truce for Genoa will be given, and afterwards, if the proposed mail line be approved by that Government, all the other weekly boats will be fixed.\*

381. A. L. S. from Sir W. Hamilton to Charles Greville. Dated Palermo, April 8th, 1799. 5 pages 4to., with Superscription and Seal. [H.]

‘From being driven from my comfortable house at Naples to a house here without chimneys & calculated only for summer, we have all suffer’d in our health, but as I wax old it has been hard upon me having had both bilious and rheumatic

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\* On the back of the document is the following memorandum in Nelson’s handwriting, and signed ‘N.’ and dated ‘April 7th, 1799’:—‘If H. S. M. chuses to send a flag of truce to Genoa it will, of course, be respected by the English, and requires no passport. It is for the Court to consider if the French or Barbary cruizers will respect it.

‘All Sicilian ships will be taken under convoy for Mahon, Gibraltar, & Lisbon, the same as British ships. A convoy will sail from Palermo the latter end of this week.’



complaints. I am still most desirous of profiting of the King's leave and of returning home by the first ship that Lord Nelson sends down to Gibraltar, as I am worn out and want repose; but as I really now see a very good prospect of L<sup>d</sup> Nelson's carrying back their Sicilian Majesties to Naples in the *Vanguard* & placing them again on that throne, and that hitherto Lord Nelson, not knowing the language, could not have done without our assistance, and I see that his Lordship is very desirous of my staying with him a little longer, as is the Court, I will have patience. Lord Nelson has sent Cap<sup>t</sup> Trowbridge with 5 sail of the line with frigates and bombs, & has already taken possession of the islands of Ischia, Procida, & Capri, & has blocked up Naples. The French at Naples are not more than 2500 men, and they occupy the castles. The civic jacobine army there consists of 20,000 men, but all the Lazaroni & common people are firm in their attachment to H. S. M<sup>y</sup>. The French sent 1500 to Salerno, where there are risings in favor of monarchy; 300 only have returned, & most of them wounded. In Abruzzo there are also considerable risings, and Cardinal Ruffo's\* army in Calabria is increased to 15 thousand men, & is getting on to join the King's friends at Salerno. In this situation of affairs you see plainly that if the good Russians land at Brindisi, or anywhere on the coast of Puglia, it will decide the business; or, if the Emperor of Germany's army is moving forward, as we are told, towards Bologna, the French will speedily retire from Naples, and we shall soon carry all before us. As yet, it is Great Britain alone that has offered the least assistance or comfort to this distressed Royal Family.

'You cannot conceive their gratitude, and also of this whole island, towards the English, for you see Gen<sup>l</sup> Stuart has secured Messina for them. You may judge, my dear Charles, what it is to keep a table for all the poor British emigrants from Naples, who have none, & for the officers of the fleet, as Lord Nelson lives in the house with us, & all business, which is immense, is transacted in our house. I began so & it must go on, tho' I should run myself a little more in debt, as it can not last long, & finally I hope the King & his ministers will take my circumstances into consideration; if not, you know I am a philosopher & will do as well as I can. As to my 8 cases, all of the best vases in my collection that were on board the *Colossus*, I fear none will be recovered, & it is a pity, for never in this world will such a collection be made again. The cases are so well made & vases so well packed, that I dare say they may float when the ship goes to pieces, and they are all cover'd with tow and strong canvas, & rope on the outside, so that they would not break against the rocks; most of my pictures & some few vases are on board a British transport in this port, but the French have taken most of my furniture at Naples, Caserta, & Pausilippo, which I had not time to carry off, having left Naples in such a hurry. Emma makes a great figure in our political line, for she carries on the business with the Queen, whose abilities you know are very great. Malta is much distressed, but still holds out. Cap<sup>t</sup> Ball in the *Alex<sup>r</sup>* has blocked that port all the winter, & after such hard service we expect Russians daily with troops, to whom the citadel will surely surrender. As Lock is here &, as you know, appointed Consul Gen<sup>l</sup> at Naples, if we get back, as I hope soon, to Naples, I mean to leave him a sort of chargé d'affaires and lose no time that I may get home & have a little summer to season me for the London winter. But, if unfortunately this business shou'd drag on the summer, it wou'd not be prudent for me to dash into a London fog at once, & I must wait next spring, & God knows I have little time to lose, for I feel old age coming on fast. I know you will, without my having given you the commission, have given directions to watch the wreck of the *Colossus*. I love L<sup>d</sup> Nelson more & more—his activity is wonderful, and he loves us sincerely.'

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\* Fabrizio Dionigi, Cardinal Ruffo, 1744–1827, a member of a noble Neapolitan family, created a Cardinal in 1794. Known to be of a very enterprising disposition, he had been made Vicar-General and Commander of the Neapolitan Royalists, and had just been sent, at the date of the letter, to head the movement against the French in Calabria, the latter being eventually obliged to give up Naples. He went to Venice in 1800 to attend the conclave at which Pius VII. was elected Pope, and again in 1824 for the election of Leo XII. After this he retired into the country and occupied himself in agricultural pursuits. Nelson, in one of his letters, calls him 'a swelled-up, well-fed priest.'

382. A. L. S. 'B.' from Lord Bristol to Mr. Day.\* No date (1799?).

$\frac{3}{4}$  page folio, with Superscription and Seal. [H.]

'By the greatest luck in the world I have found a man will *lend* me £200 & more, so that if you can not by any means make a better bargain for me agree to the *due mille Pezzi duri* which shall be deposited, but *die hard* I beseech.

'You wrote to me also for a deposit of £100, & you could make some superlatif acquisitions; this, too, by the same means I can afford you, so that you may make an *eventual conditional* bargain, & sent me a list of what you mean to buy.

'As soon as the weather & my health permit I sett off for Rome.'

383. A. L. from the same to Sir W. Hamilton. Dated Trieste, April 24th, [17]99. 7 pages 4to. [H.]

'I am come here on purpose, my dear S<sup>r</sup> W<sup>m</sup>, to communicate to you, if possible, some of those numerous & amazing events w<sup>ch</sup> in so short a time are preparing the downfall of that gang of thieves, pickpockets, highwaymen, cut-throats, & cut-purses called the French repub——.

'And most fortunately, *Gallo*† has sent an express to the Neapolitan consul here, w<sup>th</sup> orders to forward the important packet immediately by any possible means.

'Now this very incident reminds me of a plan I long ago conceived for a very short, expeditious, & safe conveyance from Manfredonia to Vienna, &, of course, from Otranto or Tarento, &c.

'The different communities thro' Dalmatia, from Spalatro to Zara, or even Fiume, may in less than one short month form a very practical road, thro' a lime stone country, such as I have often made thro' the county of Derry, for *at most* five shillings, or perhaps ten carlins or Pauls per perch, that is 21 feet long.

'If barriers or turnpikes be established on the road, the different communities can more than repay themselves, & all they want is an engineer to direct their works, & lay out the road.

'The highway from *Duino* here lies exactly thro' such a country, has turnpikes upon it, &, as far as I can learn, cost about 8 or ten pauls by the *pertica* or 21 feet.

'As every parish can work at the same time within its own district, one thousand *pertica* can be finished as soon as one hundred.

'I have often travelled this road on horseback, & often traversed my horses from Manfredonia to *Lesina* or *Spalato*, & from thence to Zara is but one single day's journey by change of horses. So much for a road so important to the two courts at present, for I conclude your courier can go perfectly *safe* through the two Calabrias to Reggio.

'Now for news.

'On the 9<sup>th</sup>, P. Charles beat Jourdan‡ a third time between Schaffausen & Soleure more decidedly than ever; Jourdan recalled, and one, Ernouff,§ in his

\* Alexander Day, 1772–1841, a miniature painter, who resided many years in Italy, whence he brought a fine collection of pictures, many of which are now in the National Gallery.

† Marzio Mastrilli, Duke di Gallo, 1753–1833, a Neapolitan statesman and diplomatist. He went as Ambassador to Vienna, and was entrusted by the Austrian Government with the delicate mission of carrying on the negotiation with Bonaparte, which resulted in the treaty of Campo Formio. He succeeded Acton as Prime Minister, became Viceroy of Sicily, went as Ambassador to Milan, and assisted at the coronation of Napoleon as King of Italy. When Joseph Bonaparte replaced Ferdinand on the throne of Naples, Gallo became Minister for Foreign Affairs, and went as Ambassador to Russia in 1820. He died in retirement.

‡ Jean Baptiste, Marshal Jourdan, 1762–1833. He served for six years as a private, and on the breaking out of the Revolution was made commander of a battalion of volunteers, and distinguished himself on many occasions, becoming General-in-Chief of the Army of Italy in 1804, and a Marshal in 1806. He was afterwards appointed Governor of the 'Invalides.'

§ Jean Auguste, Baron Ernouff, 1753–1827, a general in the army, and in 1810 Governor of Guadaloupe, which he gave up to the English, and on his return to France was imprisoned and condemned to be exiled.



place; *Berne* in the hands of P. Charles, & all the canton of Zurich in full insurrection, 40 pieces of canon SAID to be taken, &c.

'So much for Germany.

'In *Italy*, the French, beaten everywhere, with the loss of at least 30,000 men as Count de *Luc* can tell you, are not retired, but run away to *Lodi*, & the intercepted letters from *Scherer*\* & *Moreau*† declare they must quit Lombardy unless that blockhead & old woman, *Macdonald*,‡ whom I saw in confinement, can evacuate *Naples* & fly by forced marches to his succour. Mind that. The letters are printed and publish'd.

'All the Mantuan, Brescian (not the Bergamasc,—but the Cremonese & Milanese in absolute revolt & insurrection, & the pityfull blackguard Milanese Directory fled to *Turin* to avoid the stilettos of the mob of Milan. Never was a more crane-neck'd insurrection. The crowing *cocks* or *Galli* bid fair now for being capons.

'*Peschiera* & *Mantua* both blockaded perfectly, & the first before this day most probably taken.

'If *DELMAS*§ and *MARION*|| the one comandant *du chateau*, the other *de la place de Mantoue*, remain in office—then *Mantua* will soon be deliver'd to the Austrians, for to my *certain knowledge* these two have for months past been in most intimate correspondence with the Generals *Kaim*, *Godesheim*, *Elsnitz*, and Captain *Hunt*, and the *PLAN* was often fixed between them to introduce upon the weekly market day between two & 300 soldiers and officers disguised like peasants, Captain *Hunt* himself to be one of this military masquerade, & at midnight to open one gate, & admit the Austrians, but it seems, that for reasons not to be conceived, the cabinet of Vienna, *bien sujet à caution*, did not relish this stratagem, & never could be brought to consent to it. This fact I learnt both from *Hunt* & from Gen<sup>l</sup> *Elsnitz*. Make your own shrewd remarks on it.

'*MARION* is a *natif* of *LORRAINE ALLEMANDE*, of the ancient *régime*, &, like all those of that denomination, a warm Royalist & a most bitter anti-republican. He was comandant de la *Place de Ferrara* when I was arrested in my bed at the village *Pedo*, first post & halfway between *Ferrara* & *Bologna*, & at the tail of the 14 huzzars or cut-throats came into the first of these towns.

'I remained there 18 days under the inspection of a Council of War, in spite of my two passports, French & Cisalpine, a prisoner upon a neutral territory.

'*MARION* & his wife, w<sup>th</sup> *AUGUSTE* & his wife, first aide de camp to Gen<sup>l</sup> *Gyeux*, or more properly *Gueux*, since he robbed me of a costly double barrell'd gun, & four more decided Royalists could not exist, dined w<sup>th</sup> me every one of the 18 days.

'*Marion* & *Auguste* both assured me that the decided plan of *Barras* & his colleagues was to push the boundary of their rep: as far as the *Elbe*, & to give the Court of Vienna any equivalent whatever, either in *Bavaria*, *Silesia*, or *Turkey*; but have it they would to destroy the British trade, & occupy a coast from *Bayonne* to *Hamburg*.

\* *Barthélemi*, Louis Joseph *Scherer*, 1747–1804. He was General of Division in 1794; was sent to Italy in 1795, and defeated the Austrians at *Loano*. He was Minister for War in 1797, and early in 1799 was again sent into Italy, and again fought with the Austrians, but was this time defeated and forced to retreat. He was then recalled, and never again employed.

† *Jean Victor Moreau*, 1763–1813, one of the most illustrious generals of the Revolution. He served under *Dumouriez*, and became a General of Division in 1794, succeeding *Pichegru* in 1795 as Commander of the Army of the North, eventually, in 1799, served in Italy under *Scherer*, who ceded to him the chief command. In 1800 he gained the victory of *Hohenlinden*, but in 1804 he was arrested, accused of high treason, and condemned to exile. He retired to the United States, where he remained until 1813, when he returned, joined the Russian army, and was fatally wounded under the walls of *Dresden*.

‡ *Etienne Jacques Joseph Alexandre Macdonald*, Duke de *Tarente*, 1765–1840, General of Division in 1796, Governor of *Rome* in 1798. *Scherer*'s reverses forced him to evacuate the kingdom of *Naples*, but he obstinately disputed with *Suwarrow* the passage of the *Trebia*. Disgraced in 1804 for having defended *Moreau*, he retired until 1809. He fought, however, at *Wagram*, where he was made a Marshal and Duke, and afterwards commanded in *Russia*.

§ *Antoine Guillaume Delmas*, 1768–1813, a French general, killed at *Leipsig*.

|| *Claude Marion*, 1777–1847, a general of artillery, and writer on military matters.



'Poor Gen<sup>l</sup> Berthier,\* who had so nobly ransomed my immense property at Rome for 400*l.* sterling, came to visit me in my sick-bed at Pado.

"Ne croyez pas, milord, que moi ou Moreau ou votre ami Marion, ou même Delmas, nous servons par goût, par principe, ou par choix cet exécrationnable Directoire, ce tas de voleurs, ou même ce charlatan Bonaparte. Nous servons tous par nécessité pour éviter la persécution, ou pour faire le peu de bien que nous pouvons selon les occasions.

"Mais de grâce, milord, écrivez à votre grand Pitt de ne plus persister à attaquer cette exécrationnable Rép. des côtés où elle est hérissée de fortresses, et où les deux partis sont au moins égaux.

"Mais que toutes les armées entrent par les pays méridionaux. Que le pauvre roy, L. 18, se mette avec sa clique de Condé à la tête d'une de ces armées, et on verra que trois quarts de l'armée Rép. se rendra à lui; qu'on exige partout le serment de fidélité à un roi constitutionnel, & qu'on déporte tout-de-suite tout ce qui est Rép.: hommes, femmes, & enfans.

"Faites remarquer à votre cabinet que depuis Marseilles, Montpellier, Carcassone et Bourdeaux jusqu'à Paris, il ne se trouve une seule forteresse.

"Que les sept huitièmes des habitans sont Royalistes, composeront une 4<sup>ème</sup> armée, & vous aideront à chasser ces geux de Rép.: (1<sup>mo</sup>) L'armée Pruss. pourra entrer par Lyon, ville tant de fois en état de siège; (2<sup>d</sup>) L'Autrichienne par Gènes & Toulon; (3<sup>d</sup>) Le Russe ou par *Cette* & Marseille, ou débarquer sur les bords de la Loire.

"300,000 hommes dans les provinces méridionales—comment est-il possible que les provinces sept. dépourvues des secours méridionaux de tout espèce, vin, bestiaux, argent, recrues, peuvent résister?

"On fera la paix, milord, ou sur les bords de la Loire ou sur les ramparts de Paris, et alors, si on a le bon sens de partager la France, cédant le nord au Directoire, & conservant le midi pour le roi, c'en est fait de la France pour jamais, elle n'inquiétera plus l'Europe, & jamais plus elle ne sera puissance maritime; et votre Angleterre, d'où je me fais gloire de dériver mon origine, n'aura plus rien à craindre." Here was the substance of his declamation, w<sup>ch</sup> I took down in writing as soon as he was gone, & w<sup>ch</sup> he seemed to pronounce w<sup>th</sup> an amazing spirit of revenge, antipathy, & hatred to *Barras*, *Buonaparte*, & indeed the whole French nation.

'Gen<sup>l</sup> Delmas was lodged immediately under my room at Milan, & my balcony looked down directly upon his.

'After various civilities between us, he asked leave to make me a visit.

'Such an offer was too interesting to be refused; he told me he was not unacquainted with what had passed between BERTHIER & me, as well as between Marion & me.

'That both Marion & he, *Delmas*, were determined on the first occasion to give full proofs of their abhorrence of the present execrable system of iniquity, w<sup>ch</sup> must moulder away on the first bursting of a new war.

'This & great deal more of the same kind passed between us, w<sup>ch</sup> now is verifying, & I am certain the French are now going out of Italy much faster than they came into it. Adieu!

'In a few weeks I set out for Pymont; but, dear S<sup>r</sup> W<sup>m</sup>, send me a passport for SICILY, enclosed to the Neapolitan consul *here* at TRIESTE, tho' I am morally certain you will all be in Naples before long.

'If you continue wishing to resign, I can find you a purchaser. Adieu, my best love to dearest Emma, & my duty to the dear Queen.'

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\* Pierre Alexandre Berthier, Prince de Wagram, 1753-1815, one of Napoleon's most devoted generals. After serving in America, whence he returned as a Colonel, he was made Commandant of the National Guard at Versailles, served in la Vendée, then in Italy, and took possession of Rome in 1798. He then became Minister for War, and on the proclamation of the Empire, was made a Marshal, and afterwards Prince de Wagram. In 1808 he married the daughter of William, Duke of Bavaria, and died a tragical death at Bamberg, having either fallen or been thrown out of a window into the street, where he was found in a dying condition.

384. A. L. S. from Sir W. Hamilton to Charles Greville. Dated Palermo, April 28th, 1799. 4 pages 4to. [H.]

'As every day produces some extraordinary event in the Kingdom of Naples, & all in favour of his Sicilian Majesty, and that I really see great probability of his being seated again, & very soon, on his throne of Naples, I have neglected some opportunities of getting down to Gibraltar on my way home that have offer'd. I knew well that if some negociation was to be necessary between His Majesty, his nobles, & people, no one cou'd go between them with such a probability of success as myself, and they all knew it; beside, Lord Nelson, for want of languages and experience of this court & country, without Emma and me, wou<sup>d</sup> be at the greatest loss every moment. Considering all this, altho' I have rheumatism in my hip, and am tired and worn out almost, I will not abandon their Sicilian Majesties in so very interesting a moment. It will be a glorious circumstance if we can recover Naples without any further aid than that of Great Britain; at this moment there are not two thousand French in Naples, and they seem to be on the wing, having called in their outposts. Troubridge, with 5 sail of line of frigates, has made himself master of all the Island, and of Salerno, Sorriento, & Castel a Mare, and keeps Naples in hot water. The people are all Royalists, & the Neapolitan jacobins & French dare not trust their civic guard, suspecting many of Royalism also. Cardinal Ruffo with an army of 30 thousand men is marching from Calabria to Salerno, where a large body wait to join His Eminency.

'On the other side of Naples is the Grand Diavolo, an outlawed priest with 20 thousand men at his command, & all for the King, he is besieging Gaeta. In short, all looks well, but must depend on the advantages the Emperor's armies in Italy & on the Rhine may attain, & from the French evacuating Tuscany, & appearing to be on the wing from Naples, it is probably true, as report says that the Emperor has had great advantages at Verona & on the Adige. As I have written fully to Lord Grenville, you will hear of the flattering situation we are now in. I am sure if we had 3 thousand British troops at this moment we might return to Naples to-morrow. No news yet of the Russians either at Malta or Brindisi. I hope affairs will be so far settled here that I may be able to get off by the end of next month or middle of June, for if my return home was deferr<sup>d</sup> longer I should not reach London until winter, which would be a dangerous experiment for my worn-out and rheumatic carcass. The first of all satisfactions is the sensation of having done one's duty, and that satisfaction I have hitherto had, & will not part with it in the last moment, altho', as you know, the confused state of my affairs call loudly for my return home. I need not desire you to use every possible means to recover the 8 cases of my vases, for without them, in which is the cream of my collection, the rest are nothing. I do assure you never again will such a collection appear, as I paid well, & got everything that was most precious, & now few are to be found. It is well, however, that most of the best are published, & the drawings of them very exact. Coll Graham was with me yesterday from Minorca, he is going to take the command of the citadel of Messina. I was heartily glad to see him. Adieu !'

385. A. L. S. from Josiah Nesbit to Lord Nelson. Dated '*Thalia*, off Malta,' May 4th, 1799. 1 page 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'I am sorry to find from Mr. Tyson's letter that you thought I was very imprudent in messing in the gunroom, which I had not the least idea of doing, only until I got to Palermo, where I could fit myself out. I have now determined to do every thing in my power to deserve the unmerited promotion which you have given me, and hope my endeavours for the future will always meet with your approbation, as you are the only person on earth who has my interest truly at heart, and I trust and hope my future conduct will effectually do away my former folly. I have been off Lanosa and have taken two vessels, by one of which I shall send this letter to-morrow. Captain Ball has given me another cruise off Lanosa, and I hope we shall take something more. And believe me, &c.



386. A. L. S. from Lord Nelson to Sir W. Hamilton. Dated May 19th, 1799. 1 page 4to., with Superscription and Seal. [H.]

‘I send you Cap<sup>tn</sup> Hallowell’s\* note to Cap<sup>t</sup> Troubridge. If Duckworth joins I shall have a respectable force ; you may depend I will do my best. I have wrote good Lady Hamilton a line this evening, but sent it to Lieu<sup>t</sup> Lamb, it being of no very particular consequence weither the passports got to her at night or in the morning. The moment I get my dispatches I shall write to her ; although this will come to you very late, yet it is of too much consequence to keep from you one moment.’

387. A. L. S. from the same to the same. Dated *Vanguard*, May 20th (1799). 1½ pages 4to., with Superscription. [H.]

‘I see a fellucca coming to us and, as it blows too fresh for them to keep the sea, I have ordered them to keep close to the shore, and if the weather moderates then to join me, if not, to proceed to Maritimo. The *Zealous* is very near us. I hope Ball will join to-morrow. We have a miserable foul wind ; this vexes me. I know from circumstances that he must have had my letters on the 14th. I have, on examining the Captain of the *Swallow*, almost settled my opinion that the French fleet have come up close to the Barbary shore, and perhaps their object may be after *catching* Ball, which God forbid, to go on to Egypt. God bless you,’ &c.

‘Pray, give the enclosed† to my good Lady.’

388. A. L. S. from the same to the same. Dated May 21st, 1799. ½ page 4to. [H.]

‘I have done nothing new since I wrote Lady Hamilton this morning, except that our wind is as bad as bad can be ; how it vexes me I need not say. I send you a copy of Lord St Vincent’s letter. You shall know every thing good, bad, and indifferent, and believe me,’ &c.

389. A. L. S. from the same to the same. Dated May 23rd (1799). 1 page 4to. [H.]

‘No sight of Ball’s squadron ! I do not like it ; I have sent off the *Swallow* Portuguese corvette to Minorca, the cutter to Pantaleria, and the *sparanarro* to Maritimo ; the latter shall go to you the moment she returns, so shall something

\* Captain, afterwards Admiral Sir Benjamin Hallowell, Carew, 1760–1834. He entered the navy at an early age, and took post rank in 1793, was present at the battle off Cape St. Vincent and at the Nile, where he was mainly instrumental in the destruction of the *Orient*, out of the wood and iron of which ship he had a coffin made, which he presented to Nelson, who was eventually buried in it. Hallowell became a Vice-Admiral in 1819, and in 1828, succeeding to the estates of the Carews of Bedfordshire, he assumed the name and arms of Carew. He is said to have been a man of gigantic frame and vast personal strength.

† The ‘enclosed’ is the following :—

Order of Battle & Sailing.	Starboard or Weather Division.	{	Culloden .....	74	Lord Nelson's line of battle, May 20 <sup>th</sup> , 1799.
			Zealous .....	74	
			Alexander .....	74	
			Vanguard .....	74	
			Swiftsure .....	74	
			Alphonso .....	74	
	Larboard or Sea Division.	{	Principe Reale .....	100	
			St. Sebastian .....	74	
			Goliath .....	74	
			Audacious .....	74	
			Minotaur .....	74	

else when I get any news, or *no* news. This moment I have had an account that the French fleet were seen off Cagliari, stand<sup>s</sup> to the N. E. However, this news on closer examination proved to be false; but, if true, it made me form my plan for the defence of Palermo from a capture by a sea attack, and you may assure their Majesties and Gen<sup>l</sup> Acton that if the whole fleet pursue me I will not pass to the eastward of Palermo, but will there make my stand, and, I believe, should prevent the whole F. fleet from destroying us. I will stand or fall with their Majestys and you & Lady H<sup>n</sup>; noth<sup>s</sup> shall swerve me from this determination.— $\frac{1}{2}$  p<sup>st</sup> 11, the sparano is just returned from Maritimo, where they have heard nothing of the French fleet.'

390. A. L. S. from the same to the same. Dated *Vanguard*, May 25th, 1799. 2 pages 4to. [H.]

'Your two letters of the 21<sup>st</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup> arrived at 3 o'clock with 2 from G<sup>l</sup> Acton and one from Col<sup>l</sup> Graham, for the perusal of which I thank you. The cutter gone to Pantellaria goes to Minorca the moment of her return, and if she has heard nothing of the French fleet I shall return and anchor with the whole squadron in the Bay of Palermo, as many of our Naples ships want to compleat their water & provisions, which they will do in 24 hours. The Portugese want everything, for, as Duckworth means not to join me, I can only hold myself in readiness at moment's notice for any service, either in a whole body or detachments, as the Earl may direct. If the enemy are gone to Toulon and the news from Paris and Italy is true, they will not come out at present. The line of battle ships with me must not be again separated, therefore Malta must trust to the Russians. I will direct the *Lion* to remain at Procida for the protection of the islands, but nothing more is in my power at present. You will, my dear Sir William, communicate this in confidence to Gen<sup>l</sup> Acton, the mass may believe the ships are going to their former destination. I shall write my Lady she may tell the Queen, for she is a great woman and is satisfied I act as I really think best for the common cause. With sincere & cordial thanks for all your kindness when present, & good wishes when absent, believe me ever yours,' &c.

'Trowbridge, who was with me, & Hardy desire their kindest regards.'

391. A. Doc.\* S. 'Nelson.' Dated May 25th, 1799. 1 page folio, with Seal.

'WHEREAS I, Horatio Nelson, K.B., Rear-Admiral in His Majesty's fleet, have belonging to me two gold boxes set with diamonds, one bearing the picture of his Imperial Majesty the Emperor of all the Russias; the other, a nearly round box set with diamonds, said to have been sent me by the mother of the Grand Signor, I do hereby give and bequeath the last-mentioned nearly round box, &c., &c., &c. to my dear friend, Emma Hamilton, wife of the Right Hon. Sir William Hamilton, which I request she will accept (and never part from) as token of regard and respect for her every eminent virtues (for she, the said Emma Hamilton, possesses them all to such a degree that it would be doing her injustice was any particular one to be mentioned) from her faithful and affectionate friend.

'I also request that my friend, the Rt. Hon. Sir William Hamilton, K.B., will accept of fifty guineas to purchase a ring, which I beg he will wear for the sake of his sincere friend.

'I declare this as a codicil to my last will and testament, on board his Majesty's ship *Vanguard*, this 25 May, 1799, off Maritimo Isle.'

392. A. L. S. from the same to Lady Hamilton. Dated May 26th, 1799. 1 page 4to. [H.]

'Many, many thanks for your letters; but, as neither of ours can go by post, we must trust to the mercy of a boatman who cares not for our anxiety. I send you the passports for the vessels, only tell me how I can be most useful, and that is

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\* Printed in Mr. Morrison's *Catalogue*, First Series, vol. v. p. 10.



enough—the thing is done. There is not a vessel in sight, therefore I can send you nothing new. Pray do not trouble yourself to send me fruit, for, to say the truth, I have no stomach for eating. May God Almighty bless you and all my friends about you, and believe me amongst the most faithful and affectionate of your friends,' &c.

'I have no boat with me, therefore I cannot send again till one comes.'

393. A. L. S. from the same to Sir W. Hamilton. Dated May 26th, 1799.

2½ pages 4to. [H.]

'I am truly sorry you should have cause of complaint on the very serious subject of breaking quarantine, but I hope the first vessel of war which arrives will most severely flog the midshipman who suffered such a thing and the men that did it; indeed, they ought to be shot. It is in such points as these that we get hated by foreigners. I can only say this shameful conduct shall have no protection from me, but, on the contrary, the severest reprobation. I must admire the Queen's Jour<sup>l</sup>, so flattering to me; but, in truth, she cannot wish me better than *we three* wish her. I do not believe the Spanish fleet will trust themselves in Brest. They may get to Ferrol, but all guesses relative to the mad plan of the French are nothing, no reasonable conjecture can be formed. The *Lion* is in sight, but no sign of the Earl St V<sup>t</sup> cutter or Cap<sup>t</sup> Ball's squadron; as to our friends in the West, they have forgot us. Thank God, when Ball joins, we are fully capable of taking care of ourselves. Although I apprehend no danger, yet, suppose the French were to push for Syracuse, it might be difficult in the present state of the military in Sicily to dislodge them for a time, and it is their infernal principles I dread, not their prowess. I am confident also they will not come to Palermo whilst I have 11 sail of the line, but I think an enclosed work of two or three guns with forges for shot should be erected at the bay beyond the king's house at the Colli. I mean more as a guard ag<sup>t</sup> a surprise of landing there than as a regular work, for all countries must in the end be defended by the bravery of the inhabitants. Noon, *Lion* just arrived. I never heard of such infamous conduct to the Russian brig, it cannot surely be a man of war; if it is I will bring the Captain to a court martial directly. Pray tell Mushin so; I will write to him by the next boat. When this goes I have none with me, therefore cannot send off till I get one.

'Cap<sup>t</sup> Dixon has alarmed me at not bringing any news of Ball's squadron, all my fears are awake for his safety; as to us, the devil shall not take us.'

394. A. L. S. from the same to the same. Dated May 27th (1799).

3 pages 4to. [H.]

'I send you an answer to Count Mussin P. Bruce's letter, which I beg when read you will send to him. If the circumstance is true, there is no reparation that is not due to the Russian Flag, but it is so infamous that I almost doubt the whole history. I wish, if strong enough, the Russian brig had sunk the frigate, but if it turns out to be an English frigate I will venture to have my head cut off. However, nothing shall be wanting on my part, with your prudent council, if, as I suspect, she is a Gibraltar privateer, *alias pirate*, for taking away the Cap<sup>tn</sup>'s commission. All goes on well by your accounts on the Continent. Pray God it may continue, and if it does, & the F. F. gone into Toulon, they will not come out again, but I cannot account why I have not heard of Ball's squadron. I must be very uneasy till I hear of them, and form a thousand conjectures.

'The Earl St. V<sup>t</sup> cutter which left Palermo the 23rd, is not yet come to me. *L'Entreprenant* which I sent to Pantelleria not returned, nothing from Duckworth,\*

\* Sir John Thomas Duckworth, 1749–1817. He entered the navy at eleven years of age and became Post-captain in 1780. In 1793 he was given the command of the *Orion*, which formed part of the Channel Fleet under Lord Howe. He went to West Indies in 1795; in 1798 was sent to join Lord St. Vincent in the Mediterranean, and command the squadron; was sent to convoy the troops to Minorca, and to cover operations in that island. He was made a Rear-Admiral in February, 1799. In 1800 he commanded the blockading squadron off Cadiz, and captured a rich Spanish convoy, his share alone of the prize money being said to be 75,000*l*. From 1810 to 1813 he was Governor and Commander-in-Chief at Newfoundland. On his return to England he was created a Baronet, and in 1817 was appointed Commander-in-Chief at Plymouth.

or the Earl. We are compleatly in the dark, to say the truth had I known or could have guessed at A<sup>d</sup> Duckworth's intention not to have come to my help, I had no great business at sea, but being out I know had I returned the next day all Palermo would have fancy'd that I wanted to find shelter, & that the F. F. were at my heels. When *L'Entreprenant* joins & they know nothing of the F. F., I shall bring the squadron to Palermo, and I would have *you*, the court, and all *Palermo* be assured that, whilst I have a ship left, their Majestys and the city shall be defended, therefore weither they hear of me this day or hour, they may rest assured I do not for a moment forget they are in my *charge*. If they will find boats, I will send every hour exactly where I am, but the boats must be with the *Vang*<sup>d</sup>. I know the boats are hired, but can you or I make the rascals sweat at the oar? Was there anything of real importance, I would detach a ship and land an officer somewhere on the coast. Having said all this, I readily conceive your anxiety by my own, and that, if we do not hear from our friends, we fancy 10,000 things. May God,' &c.

1 o'clock, morning of the 28th.

'Many thanks for your letter and enclosures, which I return. I thank you for your kind wishes about my health. I can say with truth that I have not been free from headache, sickness, and with want of rest, for I know not what sleep is since I left Palermo. I am seriously unwell, and have given notice to my squadron that if I am ordered to blockade Toulon, that my health will not allow it, and I shall give up. The ship in sight is, I fear, the *Strombolo*. Why Ball has not joined me is wonderful. Ever your,' &c. 'Saw Pelligrini this morning.'

395. A. L. S. from the same to the same. Dated May 28th (1799).

1 page 4to. [H.]

'Ball's letters, with thanks for your goodness, I rec<sup>d</sup> last night at 10 o'clock, and towards 4 this morning she went again from us to Palermo. At 5 a fellucca which left you on Saturday arrived, & at  $\frac{1}{2}$  p<sup>t</sup>, those which left you yesterday came to me. It is calm, I therefore send you one back to say I am turning my head towards you. Many of our ships, if wanted for the blockade of Toulon, must be compleated in their water & provisions. All your news is excellent, and I hope Bonaparte will have his quietus in Egypt, as well as poor Wilmot and Major Oldfield. Should Ball have staid off Malta, it is clear the F. fleet are not bound first that road, therefore I intend he shall continue the blockade with every precaution of having ships well to the westward, to give him the information till the arrival of the Russians, when only Cap<sup>t</sup> Ball & the *Alexander* shall remain, but I shall say all my say when we arrive, for I am almost worn out with anxiety. To fight is nothing, but to be continually on the stretch for news & events of the greatest importance is what I find my shattered carcass very unequal to.

'God bless you, and believe me ever yours obliged,' &c.

396. A. L. S. from Charles Greville to the same. Dated June 8th, 1799.

5 pages 4to., with Superscription and Seal. [H.]

'I am sorry to inform you that only about ten vases and pateras, of which one only is of consequence, has been preserved from all the wreck. That a box was opened is most certain, but what I recover'd was obtain'd from the people by one of the many employed to watch the landing of any cases by the sea. I was assured by Major Bowen that these were thrown on the beach by the sea. The one I mention as of consequence is the drinking cup with the boar & sheep's head. I am still in hopes more may be thrown up.

'As to your decision to remain, I can not only say that it's like your own good judgment biased by your good heart. I wrote you that L<sup>d</sup> Grenville had said that he hoped you would not quit the Court at this time. I told him he should not only say so, but assure you of the King's approbation, to which he said he had done so in the strongest terms. I told him the losses of all sorts required your coming to know how you could go on, & the addition of salary, indemnification, &c., would be not only just but politick. I have every reason to believe that they will act as liberally in your absence as in your presence, but I saw them considering



Mr Windham's case, to which they have attended, & to Mr Smith at Constant. who has been directed to give an estimate of his losses by the fire. It would not have been wise in me to urge further than the magnitude of your losses to be beyond the scale of others & your services longer, and I therefore wish you to advise me how far I could be justified in claiming for you. It occurred to me, that as L<sup>y</sup> H. had been so instrumental in good, that you might obtain a reversionary interest in a pension when you chuse to retire, but at present to confine your claim to indemnification, & this should be what would put you in the same state as at the alarm of invasion or the return of the British fleet to Naples you was. It is not likely they will pay all, but it will be right to state all your losses, & the increase of debt since you was left the single minister in Italy.

'L<sup>y</sup> H. has desired me to send her a dress. I hope she will not think I invent some like Sicilian & Italian, & antique dresses, but, literally, they now dress their hair after Sicilian medals, & the effect is very becoming, but they all look like nymphs. I spoke to many & all admire her conduct, & the P. of W. particularly, of his own accord, told me that, after the Q. of N. account of L<sup>y</sup> H. conduct to her, she might be assured that all would be made pleasing to her when she arrived again in Eng<sup>d</sup>. It is very much my wish to see you, but not this autumn. The winter of London and its society—its hours & fashions are so different of late—that was it not for my retreat at Paddington I should be sick of it, & I therefore hope you will come next spring, the season all are in town, & the climate less hostile to rheumatisms.

'I do not know when the messenger returns, but, as I am told to expect it daily, I send this letter to be in time. Tell L<sup>y</sup> H., with my kindest remembrance, that all her friends love her more than ever, & those who did not know her admire her. I will write to her by the first opportunity, & in the meantime have prepared a little parcel such as the messenger can carry, & I will be always ready to obey her.

'I am going this moment to Wales. I have undertaken for £2000 to build new lighthouses at the entrance of the harbour, which will be finished this season. All is going on well, & no further drain will arise to you, & the improvement of income & the good I am doing will, I am sure, meet your approbation.

'Tell Graham that his friend, Barrallier, is my prime minister at Milford.

'I need not say that the eyes of Europe now are turned to Italy with the hopes of regeneration. May you return to Naples, & be instrumental to the great outline of pacification. The reform of abuse is difficult at all times, but it is necessary to be kept in view on the first arrangements, & when justice & security of property can be assured, the return of the monarch may be the moment to stem corruption & the abuses of a weak gov<sup>t</sup>.

'Mr & M<sup>rs</sup> Lock & the Miss Locks are very sensible of your kindness to their son. Adieu, believe, &c.

'Remember me to M<sup>rs</sup> Cadogan.'

397. A. L. S. from Lord Nelson to the same. Dated June 16th, 1799.

1 page 4to. [H.]

'I send you Mr Magra's\* letter, and I am glad His Majesty has got a truce for the war, although from M<sup>r</sup> M<sup>rs</sup> letter I am ignorant whether G<sup>t</sup> B<sup>n</sup> is a guarantee for the treaty, yet I hope the Bey will think she is, and consequently pay more respect to it, or it is probable the Court may wish to ratify the treaty (if it is come). If they send the ratification to me I will endeavour to get it to Tunis as speedily as possible. May God bless you, &c.

'Pray do not keep the cutter for anything the Court may have to ans<sup>r</sup> the Tunis letter, they can send it by a boat, & if the cutter is kept I have nothing with me to send you information by.'

398. A. L. S. from the same to the same. Dated June 17th, 1799. 1

page 4to. [H.]

'A ship passed the rear of the fleet in the night. I hope she was from the

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\* Mr. Perkins Magra was British Consul at Tunis.

Earl, and that you and my Lady have executed my commission of breaking open all the letters. I have not been very well, but this day is almost the finest I ever saw. We are about 12 miles west of Ustica. I think the vessels from Naples must have had letters for me, but they only spoke the *St. Sebastian & Lion*. You shall know everything, for, believe,' &c.

'I send you a copy of my letter to Lord R<sup>h</sup>. Pray return the Magra's letters.'

399. A. L. S. from the same to the same. Dated off Trapani, June 18th, 1799. 1 page 4to. [H.]

'Ball is in sight. I have now only to wish for 2 or 3 three deckers, & then I care not how soon I see the French fleet. My situation is a cruel one, and I am sure Lord Keith has lowered me in the eyes of Europe, for they will only know of 18 sail, and not of the description of them; it has truly made me ill. I hope the anchors left by the *Powerful & Alphonso* will be got up, for they are invaluable to us, the *Alphonso* having only one left. It is the finest weather, & I wish you and my lady could enjoy a little sea air. If your situation will allow to be at sea for a few days I will come off Palermo for you, and if I am to go away to fight I will promise to land you from some frigate. Ball and Foley are on board perfectly well, & desire to be kindly remembered.'

400. L. (French translation) from the Bey of Tunis to Lord Nelson. Dated at the Bardo of Tunis, the well guarded city, the abode of felicity, the 24th of the month Moharrem of the Hegira, 1214 (June 27th, 1799). 1 page folio. [P.]

A Ragusan vessel commanded by Cap<sup>tn</sup> Antonio Giacomo Cristich, from Smyrna with a cargo on account of my subjects, was some days since taken by a Portuguese frigate, who took her into Marsa Silocco, Malta. Some Turkish and Tunisian passengers who were on board of her have been sent here in a Maltese Tartane; but, although they are liberated, their effects and merchandise are stopt. Ragusa being bound by the reciprocity always acted upon by friendly and neutral powers to guarantee protection to the persons and property of those under their flag, I shall have recourse to the Senate of that republic, if the cargo should be declared confiscated; but considering the time that would elapse before justice could be obtained, on account of the distance between Tunis and Ragusa, considering that various other vessels coming from the Levant with cargoes on account of my subjects were also met and boarded by the Portuguese ships, and permitted to continue their voyage, that not three months since Cap<sup>tn</sup> Pietro Zombrovich, Ragusan, from Alexander for Tunis, was also taken by a Portuguese frigate, and carried into Malta, and afterwards released by order of Commander Alexander Ball, I have determined to communicate the fact to your Lordship, both to save time, and if, as I firmly believe that your Lordship should also consider the detention unjustifiable, that you would be pleased to give orders for her release, so that the merchandise may be saved.

I trust your Lordship will remember that it was in consequence of the letter of the 17 March last, with which your Lordship kindly honored me, that I assured my subjects they might safely trade, and that I even informed my Corsaires that they had nothing to fear from the Portuguese squadron, which was entirely under your orders. They therefore engaged freely in speculations and commerce upon the certainty that they would not be exposed to such risks and losses as inevitably must ruin them in having to recover their merchandise by process of law, should it be confiscated contrary to the stipulations and treaties of all the European powers with respect to the Barbary trade, who in their turn have always faithfully observed them. In soliciting the favor of an exact reply on the transaction from your Lordship, I have the pleasure to renew the assurance of my esteem and of the high consideration with which I am, My Lord, your Lordship's very affectionate friend, &c.



401. A. L. S. from William Compton to Lady Hamilton. Dated Posilipo, Monday, 1st July, 1799. 3 pages 4to. [P.]

'I would make many apologies for presuming to trouble your Ladyship with a request again, but, being really in the cause of true humanity, I flatter myself those sentiments in your breast will induce you not only to pardon my intrusion, but also to calm the agonies of an unfortunate daughter who trembles for her unfortunate father, and with your powerful intercession, with the worthy gallant Lord Nelson, relieve the young lady from all future fears. You yourself know the family of Marchetti. They were always and have always been staunch Royalists, but, for the great misfortune of the family, have had a son unprincipled and of violent different sentiments. He has already paid the price of his guilt by his life, but not till he has brought great troubles and disasters on his worthy, innocent parents, who have had their house sacked twice, viz., at the K's departure, & now on his restoration. The young lady's alarm arises from the order posted up of Lord Nelson, but I can assure you that the father has always preserved his principles of loyalty, and that the employment he had was forced upon him by the ferocious Republicans, amongst whom 'tis said the system of terrorism introduced by the infamous Robertspiere was gaining ground.

'The poor man is not a genius, but really a good inoffensive being. The young lady was, I believe, intended for my d<sup>r</sup> friend's nephew, but this vile son has ruined them all. She herself is the bearer to throw herself at your Ladyship's feet, & L<sup>d</sup> Nelson will, I am sure, give way to emotions of pity natural to the brave, especially to Britons, in favour of an unfortunate daughter & family, & grant a full protection to her father, &c., &c., notwithstanding that general order, and his Lords<sup>p</sup>, I know, is too just to confound the innocent with the guilty, & will distinguish between the weak & the wicked, the forced & the voluntary occupiers of offices, and also the nature of the functions. They are old acquaintances of my d<sup>r</sup> friend's (long known, too, to me), and she most earnestly unites her strongest solicitations to your Ladyship with those of,' &c.

'P.S. Pray present our best respects to Sir Wm., & remember us to Mr. Graefer.'\*

402. A. L. S. 'J. B.' from Sir Joseph Banks to Robert Greville. Dated Friday m<sup>ng</sup> (1799). 1 page 4to., with superscription. [H.]

'As the silliness of my Lincolnshire looby has disappointed you from seeing what I conceive to be a great curiosity in the way of grazing, I send enclosed for your inspection two scetches† which show how very artificially the fat of this animal is bred on the haunches, the part you know which London gluttons pay any price for, if tolerably fat.

'He will attend to-day till one, & to-morrow at the Rem. I have no hopes of your being able to attend. I say this merely that you may be informed.'

403. A. L. S. (in English) from Dr. Cirillo\* to Lady Hamilton. Dated from on board the *St. Sebastian*, July 3rd, 1799. 5 pages 4to., with superscription. [H.]

'I hope you won't take it ill, if I take this liberty to trouble you with a few lines, in order to make you recollect that nobody in this world can protect and save a miserable and innocent being, but you. I have lost everything, my house is but a heap of ruins; I don't know what is to become of my desolate family, I am quite in the dark, not knowing whether my poor old mother exists or not, after the general destruction. Milady, you are a sensible and charitable lady, I know your sentiments of humanity, therefore you alone may do everything in my favour. You are the intimate friend of Lord Nelson, he justly esteems you, and he has the power from the King of Naples to dispose of everything. The conduct of my life, before and after the French Revolution, has been always honest, pure, and loyal. I was often called in to attend French people, while

\* Mr. Graefer was Nelson's agent at his estate at Bronté.

† Two pen-and-ink sketches of the hinder part of sheep accompany the letter.

‡ Dominico Cilillo, the King's physician.

they were ill, but never had any intimacy with them, and never entertained any correspondence whatsoever with them. When General Championet came to Naples, he sent for me and appointed me for one of the members of the Provisory Government he was going to establish. The day after I sent to him a letter, and formally resigned the employment, and saw no more of him. During three months, I did nothing else but support with my own money, and with that of some charitable friends, the great number of poors existing in the town. I invited all the Physicians, surgeons, and apothecaries to go round to visit poor sick persons, who had no possibility of curing their disorders. After this period Abrial\* came to settle the new Government, and he insisted upon my accepting of a place in the Legislative Commission. I refused the second and the third time ; at last I was threatened and forced. What could I do, how could I and what could I oppose? In the short time, however, of this administration, I never took an oath against the King, never wrote, nor never said any single offensive word against any of the Royal Family, never appeared in any of the public ceremonies, never went to any public dinners, never put on the national dress ; no public money came through my hands, and the only 100 ducats in paper, that were given to me, were distributed to the poor. The few laws, that passed in my time, were only those that could prove beneficial to the people. All other affairs were transacted by the executive commission, which concealed every thing from us. These, Milady, are real facts, and even if I was to die this very moment I would not conceal the truth to you. Your Ladship knows at present the true history not of my crimes, but of the involuntary faults I was carried in by the force of the French army. Now, madam, in the name of God, don't abandon your miserable friend. Remember that, by saving my life, the gratitude of an honest family will be eternal ! Your generosity, that of your husband and of the great Nelson, are my only hopes.

'Procure me a full pardon from our merciful king, and the public will not lose an infinite number of medical observations collected in the space of forty years. Remember I did all I could to save the Botanic Garden at Caserta, and tried to be as useful to the children of Mrs. Greffer as I could. I think it unnecessary, madam, to trouble you any longer, you must pardon this long letter and excuse me in the present deplorable condition. I beg you to present my best respects to Sir William, and to Lord Nelson, while I am, Madam,' &c.

404. A. L. S. from W. Wyndham to Sir. W. Hamilton. Dated Florence, July 13th, 1799. 1 page folio. [P.]

'My Secretary, Mr Penrose, has my directions to lay before you the letters I have written to the Che<sup>r</sup> Seratti with the papers, &c., for your perusal & for His S. Majesty's information in case that Mr Seratti should have left Palermo. Should Mr Seratti be still here he will communicate it to you, the affairs are prosperous beyond our hopes.

'I am sorry, most heartily sorry, that after our last meeting all discord is not forgotten, and feel much mortified that either you or Lady Hamilton should feel resentment against Mr Penrose, whose conduct has always been as far as I have known loyal & gentlemanly.

'I hope all rancour will cease, and that you will perceive that by any act Mr Penrose may have done, you are not injured even in the most trifling degree. The machinations of some ill-liberal persons, attempt to work upon your temper & influence you against Penrose as they did against me whilst at Palermo.

'I despise their lies & calumny. L<sup>d</sup> H. would do much better to do the same. I am,' &c.

405. A. L. S. from Sir. W. Hamilton to Charles Greville. Dated 'on board the *Foudroyant*, Bay of Naples,' July 14th, 1799. 4 pages folio. [H.]

'I profit of the return of Mr Sylvester, the King's messenger, to send you a

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\* André Joseph Abrial, 1750-1828, a French politician who organized the so-called Parthenopean Republic.



line, but I really am so worn out by the long dispatch I have been obliged to write to-day to Lord Grenville that I can scarcely hold my pen. By our present compleat success I am more than repaid for having, as you know, sacrificed both my health and private interests for the good of the common cause in which we have so long been struggling. The arrival of the King's fleet in time has saved this capital from the utmost anarchy and confusion. Lord Nelson has secured all the chiefs of the Jacobine nobility & their party, who would otherwise have escaped the hand of justice by the rascality or imbecility of the King's Vicar Gen<sup>l</sup>, but I cannot go over the same ground again of my letter to Lord Grenville. By applying at His Ld<sup>ps</sup> office you may know the contents of that letter, as I suppose you have friends there as you have everywhere. When Lord Nelson was entreated to go to Naples with his whole fleet, 19 of the line, their Majesties requested me to accompany L<sup>d</sup> Nelson, who did not know the language & had not the long experience of the country, & of which I was perfectly master. We had full powers, but nothing but my phlegm could have prevented an open rupture on the first meeting between Cardinal Ruffo and Lord Nelson. Lord Nelson is so accustomed to dealings fair & open, that he has no patience when he meets with the contrary, which one must always expect when one has to deal with Italians, &, perhaps, His Eminency is the very quintessence of Italian finesse. We have now been here 18 days, & His Sicilian Majesty on board this ship 3 days. We have now nothing political to think of, & Lord Nelson is occupied with the taking of Capua & Gaeta, which I dare say will be done in a few days. To-morrow the brave Capt<sup>ts</sup> Trowbridge & Hollwell go upon that attack, &, as Gaeta is blocked by sea and land, we flatter ourselves that in a few days there will not be a Frenchman left in the kingdom of Naples when those 2 remaining fortresses are taken. Trowbridge took the strong castle of St Elmo in ten days, a regular engineer would have been 6 weeks making his approaches. The King just came the night before the surrender, & saw from this ship his own standard hoisted. My head is so confused with long writing on this subject that I must refer you to my letter to L<sup>d</sup> Grenville. I have been told most of the goods & cannon have been recovered from the wreck of the *Colossus*. I hope in God my 8 cases, that were so very carefully packed, may be of the number. Spare no expence, my d<sup>r</sup> Cha<sup>s</sup>, to recover them if you can, as the like were never seen, or ever will be. I still think I am in time to get home before the winter sets in, and as their Sic<sup>n</sup> Majesties will probably be very soon firmly seated on their throne of Naples, I may profit of the King's leave, which has remain'd in my pocket more than two years. You will find me much worn & am little more than skin and bone, as I have very little stomach. Perhaps my native air may give me a bracing, but I expect more from a perfect repose from all vexatious business than any thing else.

'Probably some ships will soon be sent home from Palermo, and Emma & I shall profit of one. Every Capt. wishes to serve us, and no one are, I believe, more popular in the navy at this moment than Emma and I. It will be a heart breaking to the Queen of N. when we go, she has really no female friend but her, & Emma has been of infinite use in our late very critical business. L<sup>d</sup> Nelson & I could not have done without her, all of which shall be explain'd when we meet. You can not conceive the joy of Naples on seeing me arrive again, and we have had the glory of stepping between the King & his subjects to the utility of both. In short, the King's fleet & a little good management & temper has placed their Sic<sup>n</sup> Majesties once more on their throne of Naples.

'L<sup>d</sup> Nelson is enraged at the thought of the Brest fleets having probably got into the ocean again. You shall hear again when we return to Palermo &, I hope, see us soon after. With, &c.

406. A. L. S. from Lady Hamilton to the same. Dated *Foudroyant*, Bay of Naples (July 14th,\* 1799). 2 pages 4to., with Superscription and Seal. [H.]

'Lieut. Parkinson will deliver this to you ; he carries a letter to the King from

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\* St. Elmo surrendered July 13th.

our King. *We* have placed him on his throne again. Parkinson is a worthy good man; he will tell you our situation here, for I have no time to write, having so much to do, but you will be pleased to find we have done all in our power, and succeeded for the Royal Family & this kingdom—but M<sup>r</sup> Parkinson will inform you. God bless you, & believe me,' &c.

'P.S. I came with a particular commission from the Queen to the Royalists, & all is as we *wished*. St. Elmo surrendered yesterday.'

407. A. L. S. from Captain Ball to Lord Nelson. Dated '*Alexander*, off Malta,' July 17th, 1799. 2½ pages folio. [P.]

'I have the honour to acquaint your Lordship of my arrival here the 8th inst. with the ships under my command. Captain Maling, of *La Bonne Citoyenne*, informed me, that there had not been any particular occurrence since he last wrote to your Lordship.

'I inclose a letter from Lieutenant Vivion, whose conduct during my absence merits my warmest commendation. The late Grand Master has a strong party here, to counteract the views of the Emperor of Russia; he is protected by the Emperor of Germany, who is extremely jealous of Paul getting himself elected Grand Master, to accelerate his plan of possessing the sovereignty of Malta, and I have not a doubt but the three Knights of Malta, mentioned by Lieutenant Vivion, were sent here expressly to effect a counter revolution. I intercepted some letters last March, from the late Grand Master, exciting his agents here to strengthen his party by every possible means, and to assure them of the protection of the Emperor of Germany. I immediately arrested the principal agent, and sent him to the island of Comino, after extorting a list of the persons concerned, some of whom are the best families on the island, and who know that I am acquainted with their attachment, and watch narrowly their conduct; they, therefore, keep very quiet, and I believe many are now warm partisans of the English.

'The Maltese at present are very obedient to the laws. During my absence a large body of men assembled in a riotous manner, and insisted on the repeal of a law which the Congress had passed; their appearance was so formidable that Lieutenant Vivion thought it prudent to concede. Since my arrival the rebellious leaders have been arrested and sent to Barbary, to the great joy of the peaceable inhabitants, and I trust it will prevent any further opposition to the laws of the island. The French have a few friends in the country who are exciting the people to insurrection, but I am convinced they will not succeed so long as we are enabled to pay the Maltese armed peasants.

'The French garrison are lingering out in the hope of a succour, but, when they hear of His Sicilian Majesty being restored to his dominions and their fleet being blockaded, I am of opinion the French soldiers will oblige General Vaubois\* to capitulate. I send this by the *Benjamin*, as her provisions are getting short. I have the honour to be,' &c.

408. A. L. S. from Lord Nelson to 'Signora Madre,' Mrs. Cadogan. Dated *Foudroyant*, Naples, July 17th, 1799. 1¾ pages 4to., with superscription. [P.]

'I cannot longer resist the pleasure it will give me to write you a line, especially as I can tell you that Sir William is grown very much better since his embarkation. Our dear Lady is also, I can assure you, perfectly well; but has her time so much taken up with excuses from rebels, Jacobins, and fools, that she is every day most heartily tired. Our conversation is, as often as we are liberated from these teasers, of you and our other friends in the house at Palermo; and I hope we shall very soon return to see you. Till then recollect that we are restoring happiness to the kingdom of Naples, and doing good to

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\* Claude Henri Belgrand, Count de Vaubois, 1748–1839, a French general; at the date of the letter Governor of Malta, which he was forced to evacuate after months of privation, in 1800.



millions. Remember me kindly to Graeffe and the children. Tell them I hope they are much improved in their dancing, and particularly in *French*, as I hear you have taken a new master for them. Believe me we all long to see you, and we will go and dine at the Colli from a dinner of your ordering for us. Captain Troubridge goes against Capua to-morrow, and I am sure he will very soon take it. Mr. White goes with him as a volunteer. Harryman is made a Colonel, and he now hopes Lady K. will have no objection to his connection in her family—in short, the poor man is almost mad with anger. God bless you, my dear Madam, and believe me, &c.

409. L. S. from the officers of the *Leviathan* to Lady Hamilton. Dated *Leviathan*, Naples Bay, July 17th, 1799. 2 pages folio, with superscription. [P.]

‘We, the undersigned officers of his Majesty’s ship the *Leviathan*, having sought, but in vain, some means of alleviating the miseries of the unfortunate family of Peatti, who are on board here; have at length unanimously assured ourselves that their most effectual deliverance would be obtained if your Ladyship’s interference could but be procured on their behalf. The reason we venture to address ourselves to you in particular is plain, because we have heard many instances of your Ladyship’s unbounded humanity, which we trust will plead an excuse (more powerfully than anything else can) in our request, ‘that your Ladyship will be pleased to present his Sicilian Majesty with the enclosed petition.’ We all feel ourselves deeply impressed with the horrid crime of disaffection to one’s lawful Sovereign, and the miseries to one’s country that must inevitably ensue; but when we consider the frailty of human nature, how apt mankind are to be misguided, and, above all, the sincere and unfeigned repentance of the Peatti family, of which we have been eyewitnesses, we have flattering hopes that, aided by your Ladyship’s benevolence, they will have the good fortune to experience their King’s pardon. We have the honour to subscribe ourselves with the highest respect, &c.

410. A. L. S. from Capt Ball to Lord Nelson. Dated ‘*Alexander* off Malta,’ July 18th 1799. 1 page 4to. [P.]

‘I have the honour to acquaint your Lordship, that a deserter is this moment come out of La Valetta, who corroborates the distressed state of the French garrison, and, in addition, he says that there is very little water left on the Cotonaro side, and that they get their supply from La Valletta. General Vaubois has given order to clear all the gardens of vegetables, to prevent any water being used there. He likewise says the French soldiers will oblige General Vaubois to capitulate upon the appearance of an additional force. I have the honour to be, &c.

411. A L. S. from Lady Hamilton to Charles Greville. Dated ‘On board the *Foudroyant*, Bay of Naples,’ July 19th, 1799. 8 pages 4to. [H.]

‘We have an opportunity of sending to England, and I cannot let pass this good opportunity, without thanking you for your kind remembrance in Sir William’s letter. Everything goes on well here. We have got Naples, all the Forts; and to-night our troops go to Capua. His Majesty is with *us* on board, were he holds his Councils and Levées every day. General Acton and Castelcicala with one gentleman of the bedchamber attend His Majesty. Sir William and Lord Nelson with Acton are the King’s Counsellors, and you may be assured that the future government will be most just and solid. The King has bought his experience most dearly, but at last he knows his friends from his enemies, and also knows the defects of his former government, and is determined to remedy them. For he has great good sense, and his misfortunes have made him steady and look into himself.

‘The Queen is not yet come. She sent me as her Deputy; for I am very

popular, speak the Neapolitan language, and [am] consider'd, with Sir William, the friend of the people. The Queen is waiting at Palermo, and she is determined, as there has been a great outcry against her, not to risk coming with the King; for if it had not succeeded [on] his arrival, and not been well received, she wou'd not bear the blame, or be in the way. We arrived before the King 14 days, and I had privately seen all the Loyal party, and having the head of the Lazerons an old friend, he came in the night of our arrival, and told me he had 90 thousand Lazerons ready, at the holding up of his finger, but only twenty with arms. Lord Nelson to whom I interpreted, got a large supply of arms for the rest, and they were deposited with this man. In the mean time, the Calabreas were comiting murders, the bombs we sent to St. Elmo were returned, and the citty in confusion. I sent for this Pali, the *head of the Lazeroni*, and told him, in great confidence, that the King wou'd be soon at Naples, and that all we required of him was to keep the citty quiet for ten days, from that moment. We give him onely one hundred of our marine troops. He with these brave men kept all the town in order, and he brought the heads of all his 90 thousand round the ship on the King's arrival; and he is to *have promotion*. I have thro' him made 'the Queen's party,' and the people at large have pray'd for her to come back, and she is now very popular. I send her every night a messenger to Palermo, with all the news and letters, and she gives me the orders\* the same [way]. I have given audiences to those of her party, and settled matters between the nobility and Her Majesty. She is not to see on her arrival any of her former evil counsellors, nor the women of fashion, alltho Ladys of the Bedchamber,—formerly her friends and companions, who did her dishonour by their desolute life.

'All, all is changed. She has been very *unfortunate*; but she is a good woman, and has sense enough to proffit of her *past unhappiness*, and will make for the future *amende honorable* for the *past*. In short, if I can judge, it may turn out fortunate that the Neapolitans have had a dose of Republicanism.

'But what a glory to our Good King, to our Country, to ourselves that *we*—our brave fleet, our great Nelson—have had the happiness of restoring the King to his throne, to the Neapolitans their much-loved King, and been the instrument of giving a future good and just government to the Neapolitans! The measures the King is taking are to be approved of. The guilty are punish'd, and the faithful rewarded. I have not been on shore but once. The King gave us leave to go as far as St. Elmo's, to see the effect of the bombs. I saw at a distance our despoiled house in town and villa Emma that have been plundered. Sir William's new apartment,—a bomb burst in it! But it made me so low-spirited, I don't desire to go again.

'We shall, as soon as the Government is fixed, return to Palermo, and bring back the Royal family; for I foresee not any permanent government, till that event takes place. Nor would it be politick, after all the hospitality the King and Queen received at Palermo, to carry them off in a hurry. So, you see, there is great management required. I am quite worn out. For I am interpreter to Lord Nelson, the King, and Queen; and altogether feil quite shatter'd; but, as things go well, that keeps me up. We dine now every-day with the King at 12 o'clock. Dinner is over by one. His Majesty goes to sleep, and we sit down to write in this heat; and on board you may guess what we suffer.

'My mother is at Palermo, but I have an English lady† with me who is of use to me in writing, and helping to keep papers and things in order. We have given the King all the upper cabbin; all but one room that we write in and receive the ladies who come to the King. Sir William and I have an apartment below in the ward room; and as to Lord Nelson, he is here and there and everywhere. I never saw such zeal and activity in anyone as in this wonderful man. My dearest Sir William, thank God! is well, and of the greatest use now to the King. We hope Capua will fall in a few days, and then we will be able to return to Palermo. On Sunday last we had prayers on board. The King

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\* It would seem that Lady Hamilton regarded herself in the summer of 1799 as nothing more than an agent for executing the Queen's orders, and sending Her Majesty budgets of intelligence.

† Probably Miss Knight.



assisted, and was much pleased with the order, decency, and good behaviour of the men, the officers, &c. Pray write to me. God bless you, my dear sir, and believe me,' &c.

'P.S.—It would be a charity to send me some things ; for in saving all for my royal and dear friend, I lost my little all. Never mind.'

412. A. L. S. from Mr. Compton to Lady Hamilton. Dated 'Posilipo, Sunday, July 20th, 1799.' 4 pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'Tho' we have not been to pay our personal respects to your Ladyship, Sr W<sup>m</sup>, & Lord Nelson, be assured that both M<sup>rs</sup> Compton & myself have often had you in our kindest remembrance, &, having had more than once an opportunity of enquiring after all your healths, happy to hear you were well, sent our best respects. On Wednesday M<sup>rs</sup> Compton was so sick the whole time we were on board Adm<sup>l</sup> Duckworth, that she has declared against going on the sea again, unless very smooth. If tolerably so, we intend ourselves, however, the honor of waiting on you for half an hour to-day after dinner from the Mole, but, as you are all so occupied with your royal guest, we judged it proper first to enquire whether it would not interfere with any of your Ladysp's & agreeable party's political or pleasureable arrangements.

'In the meanwhile, dear Lady Hamilton, pardon my d<sup>r</sup> M<sup>rs</sup> Compton & me for being earnest, humble suitors to you, and also soliciting you to exert your interest w<sup>th</sup> Lord Nelson to join his influence to your & Sr William's to carry a point we have very much at heart to succeed in with his *Neapolitan* Majesty & his Minister, the speedy reinstating my friend Don Franchino di Martino in the rank and emoluments of his former posts in the army. I assure you, my Lady, and also Lord Nelson, that his *Neapolitan* Majesty will do no more than an act of real justice in granting it. His M<sup>y</sup> will do himself honor by it, & the Minister will refute the censures universally cast on all Neapolitans, that bribery & self-gain is the only road to success, and that a bribe supplies the place of all merit. With such a system all government must totter to its foundation, and how can any king expect to be well served when loyal, faithful, brave officers, who have seen much active, hard service, experience neglect, whilst, by a bribe to underlings in office or undue means, cowardice, treachery, inability, inexperience, can be all overlooked & find preferable employment, to the ruin of the king's army, which greatly wants veterans ?

'I had the honor to enclose to Sir William a memorial for the King from my friend, D. Franchino di Martino, who had been many years Cap<sup>tn</sup> of Cavalry & Command<sup>t</sup> of Brigade. Sr W<sup>m</sup> was so obliging as to present it, as is the usage here, to Gen<sup>l</sup> Acton, & to promise me he w<sup>d</sup> particularly recommend *that* (& Martino's son-in-law, D. Nicolo Ferraris, also Cap<sup>tn</sup> of Horse) to his Exc<sup>y</sup>, & w<sup>d</sup> also get y<sup>r</sup> Ladyship & Lord Nelson to speak to the Gen<sup>l</sup> in favor of Martino's, &c. Permit me to add our hearty thanks to your Ladysp. & L<sup>d</sup> Nelson, as well as to Sir W<sup>m</sup>, for such mark of favour.

'I am sure Lord Nelson, your Ladyship, Sr W<sup>m</sup>, indeed, everybody must be sensible how much his Neapolitan Majesty wants to form a respectable, tho' not a large army, since, to the disgrace of so populous a kingdom, his present sole reliance for the recovery of his castles is on the bravery, &c., of Captains of men of war with a few of their gallant Englishmen, out of their element, too, & a handful of Russians, yet my unfortunate friend (&, I dare say, many other experienced officers) is not employed, tho' out of a most rare true attachment to his Majesty, with a numerous family, 2 or 3 sons also in the same corps with him, he had resisted all applications at a great risque to serve the Republic, and he & his sons have been these 8 months out of pay.

'From the known nature of the Neapolitan political machine I am sensible that, notwithstanding Sir W<sup>m</sup>'s, your Ladyship's, & Lord Nelson's kind intentions, if they are not strenuously supported by your repeatedly pressing the King & Minister, perhaps the subalterns, nothing will be done, but the memorials remain unheeded. I beg, therefore, that Sr W<sup>m</sup>, your Ladyship, & Lord Nelson, will pardon our earnestness in entreating the most urgent joint solicitations that his Majesty (the Minister) will put into immediate actual service, with his former

rank & pay (or even a higher, as a reward for his conduct) his tried faithful servant, Cap<sup>tn</sup> Franchino, placing also his sons, and also further attach his son-in-law, D. N. Ferrari by reinstating him as Cap<sup>tn</sup>. I wish his Majesty had had all such subjects, he w<sup>d</sup> not have been reduced to the cruel necessity of calling on the rapacious Calabrese, or even to the owing his restoration to the vigour of our brave gallant nation.

'I fear his M<sup>y</sup> will find himself much embarrassed with the Calabrese, who value themselves highly as his restorers.

'In the letters I have had the honor to write to Sir W<sup>m</sup>, I noticed Martino's services more fully, so will not intrude on your Ladyship with a repetition, as S<sup>r</sup> W<sup>m</sup> will, of course, have communicated the contents to your Ladyship & Lord Nelson.

'You can have no idea, d<sup>r</sup> Lady Hamilton, how I am persecuted here by all sorts of people, some I cannot any way get rid of. Don Biaggio Rinaldi, Curato of Scalea, Province of Coscenza, in Calabria, is always teasing me about his memorial to the King. I am obliged to forward another for him to Sir William for his M<sup>y</sup>. He has high pretensions, having brought 180 men, his vassals, with him, & spent a great deal, he says, of his own money.

'I hear that the Calabrese in general claim a promised gratuity from the King; they grow very impatient at the delay. Some say the English won't always be here (meaning to keep some order), therefore, I am apprehensive, if some prudent or vigorous measures are not taken to satisfy or send them home, we may see some confusion. Many of the men pester Joseph, my man, with papers, he is afraid & obliged to take them.

'I hope our brave English will soon return from Capua, & not catch disorders.

'Pardon, d<sup>r</sup> Lady Hamilton, this long letter. Pray present all respects, & accept the same from us both, & remember us to M<sup>rs</sup> Graeffe & good M<sup>rs</sup> Cadogan when you write, who we hope is well, and I have the honor,' &c.

413. A. L. S. from the same to Sir W. Hamilton. Dated Posilipo, July 28th, 1799. 4 pages 4to. [P.]

'The person whose papers I now enclose has persecuted me continually to send it to your Exc<sup>y</sup>; he is one of those Calabrese who forms high pretensions. It is with reluctance I have been obliged to yield to his importunity without yet understanding whether or not he had been, as he seems to state, recommended by your Exc<sup>y</sup> to the Secretary at War to be received into his office. I hope you will excuse this trouble, as I merely mean to enclose it to avoid further importunity.

'I was extremely rejoiced to hear the good news, and Mrs. Compton was not less so. If Lord Nelson sh<sup>d</sup> send any armed vessel to Leghorn, she shall be extremely obliged to his Lords<sup>p</sup>, yr. Exc<sup>y</sup>, & Ly H., to favor her with as long a previous notice as possible; I will engage that, tho' trusted to one of the female sex, the information shall remain an entire secret. She is extremely anxious that her little boy should have an education, which he cannot have at Naples. He has two first cousins at the Royal College of Prato, which is a most excellent one; it would be an agreeable situation for her son to be with them--she has long wished to send them; the sudden entry of the French into Tuscany has prevented her. I should send one of my people with him, to see him safe & take care of him to Prato. My Tuscan servant knows the place very well, the distance from Leghorn is not great. M<sup>rs</sup> Compton would be extremely obliged to Lord Nelson if he w<sup>d</sup> permit her to avail herself of the opportunity of the first armed vessel he sends, and would let the young gentleman & his attendant have a passage in it to Leghorn, and she sh<sup>d</sup> be glad of a day or two to get his things, &c., ready. My man w<sup>d</sup> be back from Prato in 3 or 4 days, so as to return by the same vessel, or some other.

'I cannot resist the painful sensations of my heart in seeing the dejected & distressed family of my old friends, Martino, and the hardship of an old faithful officer & servant of his S. M., who has been 8 months living on his own little money (at 70 p<sup>r</sup> c<sup>t</sup> loss) yet w<sup>d</sup> not yield to the pressing solicitations of the French & N. Rep. to enter into service at advanced pay. He behaved bravely



to the very last, & had a severe illness from the fatigue, whilst I know several provided for without pretensions—'tis contrary to the K.'s own proclamation that they are not employed.

'Cap<sup>t</sup> Wade is made a Major. He has not seen nor been in active service to the last, as Martino, but he is advanced ; he is not a Neapolitan ; he is, however, Irish, is that superior merit ? The public affairs are not more pressing than when he & others were promoted ; individuals compose the public, & sh<sup>d</sup> not starve. Chomel is in full pay & service, the Russian Minister warmly espoused him. Can Lord Nelson, can Ly. Hamilton, have, or deserve, less influence from the K. than he ? There is no indelicacy in asking justice for an officer of his M<sup>y</sup>. I vouch for him, I have been here & witness of his zeal & loyalty. I beg, my d<sup>r</sup> S<sup>r</sup>, that you will not delay your earnest solicitations ; I shall esteem it the highest obligation. The 1<sup>st</sup> of Aug. approaches, shall any heart be sad ? Mine is so at present. How happy sh<sup>d</sup> I be, it wo<sup>d</sup> call down God's further blessings on our arms to use the due right which the glory of that day gave Lord Nelson, y<sup>r</sup> E. E. & all the English nation to ask reasonable *favours*, whereas I ask what is a strict *act of justice* from his S. M. for a subject of his own of long proved loyalty.

'Oh that the glorious 1<sup>st</sup> of Aug<sup>t</sup> would give joy & happiness to the family I solicit for ! Oh that to y<sup>e</sup> national I might unite my own, in having the patent or commission of full rank pay & arrears, as *indeed* the K's proclamation *promised*, to deliver on that glad day to D. Franchino di Martino. His sons served with credit as cadets, one wounded ; his son-in-law, Ferrari, is a gallant brave officer. I w<sup>d</sup> answer for his loyalty, &c. His Majesty wants officers & persons of approved loyalty & courage ; 'tis a favour done to him to point them out to him, he honours himself by doing them justice, 'tis by justice that Kings reign. Indolence often has the ill effect of neglect. We know this government of old. Pardon me, d<sup>r</sup> S<sup>r</sup>, for entreating exertions & your powerful coadjutors. Pray present our best respects,' &c.

414. A. L. from Scipione Marziale to Lord Nelson. No date (July, 1799?) 1½ pages folio. [P.]

Scipione Marziale, Alfieri of the regiment of Agrigento, humbly sheweth that on the 17th of June, some of the people, more for the sake of plunder than from loyalty to the King, attacked your petitioner in the public street, and after loading him with abuse and insults of every description, dragged him to the bridge of La Maddalena. The petitioner's only hope was (well knowing his perfect innocence) that he should be brought before the State Council, which after 17 days of painful confinement occurred, the Council saw him, heard him, declared him innocent, and ordered him to be acquitted. He left the prison, but his satisfaction was of short duration, for another mob of villains under the same pretext of Jacobinism, assaulted and plundered him, and conducted him on board the *Commandant*, in order that they should thereby deprive him of all means of clearing himself. Their design failed, however, as the certificate of Br. Brock, already presented to Your Excellency, verifies all that is recapitulated in this petition, and amongst other things, that Marziale not only was not arrested by order of the Council, but on the contrary without any order being issued. Now, as it is well known to Your Excellency that all such arrests without the usual orders are not only unjust, but criminal, your petitioner has recourse to your well-known justice, in order that, by virtue of your royal diploma of the 29th of June, he may be restored to liberty ; and your petitioner will ever pray.

415. L. from Eugenio Palumbo and Gabriele Pica to the same. No date (July, 1799). 1¾ pages folio. [P.]

Don Eugenio and Gabriel Pica, Neapolitans, beg to state to your Excellency that being compelled to join the National Guard under the late Government, and in the Garrison of Castell a Mare, on the 15th of June last, when the Piazza and fort of Castell a Mare surrendered to the glorious arms of His Majesty, it was stipulated with the Commander of the *Seahorse*, that the garrison of Castell a Mare should be free to depart unmolested, and this was guaranteed by the

English. In consequence of this capitulation, the said Palumbo and Pica believing themselves, as in fact they were, under protection, retired to their home in Naples, but they had scarcely reached it when they were surrounded by a troop of Lazzari who robbed them of their clothes and ornaments and took them to the Granili del Ponte, where they were thrust among the other prisoners, and reduced to a state of misery, exciting compassion even there. They assure your Excellency that they never were disloyal to the sacred person of His Majesty, but were constrained to join the National Guard by force, and feel persuaded that the generosity which distinguishes the English, the respect they religiously show both for the rights of the people and the conditions of war, will induce you to restore them to liberty, which by virtue of the capitulation they are entitled to, and are now so unjustly deprived through popular violence. They supplicate your Excellency to order them to be released from the guard ship, and that they may be put on board the *Seahorse*, where the principal part of the garrison of Castell a Mare already is, as they desire to testify their attachment to their Sovereign by offering themselves as volunteers ready to shed their blood on any occasion for the glory of His Majesty. Their hope is in the justice and generosity of your Excellency, for which they will be ever grateful, and pray, &c.

416. A. L. (in English) from the Marquis Lazarini to the same. No date (1799?) 1 page folio. [P.]

'The Marquis Lazarini dares not call presumption his humble address to your lordship, but rather a respectfull confidence that every body to have to your generous lordship, whose chiefly delight is to succour the poor, the needy, and gratify every one that puts himself under the shadow of your protection. The suppliant then being a father of a great numerous family, and wanting of all necessary to supply his duty to his unhappy family, having all his goods confiscated by the great Kingly court, intrireats and prays your lordship to have pity of him whose advocate is your heart. Do but hear its dictates, and the suppliant will be happy for all ages, everlasting your famous name, to the glory of your nation, to the pleasure of this foron [sic], to the honour of mankind, to the terrour of your and our impious enemies. God give to your lordship with a long life, all his blessings, while the suppliant, prostrate to your feet, waits for your grace. God grant it.'

417. A. L. S. from Lady Hamilton to Charles Greville. Dated, '*Foudroyant*, Bay of Naples,' August 5th (1799). 3½ pages 4to., with superscription and seal. [H.]

'As Sir William wrote to you to-day, my dear sir, I will only say that the kingdom of Naples is clear. Gaëta and Capua have capitulated, and we sail to-night for Palermo, having been now seven weeks, and everything gone on to our wishes. We return with a kingdom to present to my much-loved Queen. I have allso been so happy to succeed in all my campanes, and every-thing I was charged with. The King is in great spirits. I have received all the ladies for him, and he calls me his Grande Maitresse. I was near taking him at his word. But, as I have had seven long years' service at Court, I am waiting to get quiet. I am not ambitious of more honours. *Il est bonne d'être chez le Roi, mais mieux d'être chez soit.* We have had the King on board a month, and I have never been able to go once on shore. *Do you not call that slavery?* I believe we shall come home in the spring. It is necessary, for our pockets and bodys want bracing. Captain Oswald\* will give you this. He has been indefatigable under Troubridge, and goes home to be made Post. God bless you, and belive me, my dear Greville ('tis not a crime to call you so!),' &c.

'My mother is at Palermo, longing to see her Emma. You can't think how she is loved and respected by all. She has adopted a mode of living that is charming. She as a good apartment in our house, allways lives with us, dines,

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\* Captain James Oswald was the third son of the Rev. Dr. James Oswald, of Auchincruive. He died in 1822.



&c., &c. Only, when she does not like it (for example, at great dinners) she herself refuses, and as allways a friend to dine with her; and La Signora Madre dell'Ambasciatrice is known all over Palermo, the same as she was at Naples. The Queen has been very kind to her in my absence, and went to see her, and told her she ought to be proud of her glorious and energick daughter that has done so much in these last suffering months. There is great preparations for our return. The Queen comes out with all Palermo to meet us. A landing-place is made,—balls, suppers, illuminations, all ready. The Queen has prepared my cloathes—in short, if I have fag'd, I am more than repaid. I tell you this, that you may see I am not unworthy of having been once in some degree your *élève*. God bless you!

418. A. L. S. from Sir W. Hamilton to his sister.\* Dated 'On board the *Foudroyant*, in the Bay of Naples,' August 5th, 1799. 3 pages 4to. [H.]

'Do not think, altho' I never write, that you are out of my thoughts. I remember with gratitude your predilection for me in my infancy, and am sure, notwithstanding some untoward circumstances, that your affection for me has never been extinct. I have been looking with pleasure these two years for the moment to profit of the King's leave, and return home & see my friends, but I never cou'd answer to my conscience, to abandon this Royal family in their cruel distress, &, thank God by my stay, I may without vanity say, I have been instrumental in placing their Sicilian Majestys again on their throne of Naples. The season is so far advanced, & my health has been so impaired, that I dread dropping in London in the midst of a winter fog, so that I believe I must give up the pleasing thought of seeing you again, untill next spring, by which time I hope the French will be brought to a sense of their iniquity, & affairs may be nearly returned to the *statu quo* as before the war.

'I beg you will accept of these lines as an effusion of my heart, & hope they will find you in a pleasanter state of mind than when we parted last. God bless you,' &c.

'P.S.—You will read the news we send from hence to-day in public papers, & they are very good. It is Great Britain alone that has stem'd the wicked torrent.'

419. A. L. S. from Matthew Wade to Lady Hamilton. Dated Naples, August 10th, 1799. 5½ pages 4to. [P.]

'This juncto of state proceeds so slowly, that in my oppinion they are augmenting the number of Jacobins every day. The object, while present, calls the tenderness of the wife, the father, and mother, but when it no more exists the wife cries for half an hour, the mother a day, and the father employs the same time to console the old woman, and thus the object is forgot.

'It's supposed that Rocco Romano has marched towards Rome. It's said he is ruining the country with raising contributions. I believe he should be stoped, as it's a bad example to let so many men live upon plunder. It was supposed that there wou'd be many of those deluded people tied up this week, but I don't find that there is any business of that kind gone forward. There is a scruple of conscience in the matter, as they are hanged upon the King's account, the hangman is, I am told, entitled to no fees; therefore, if the fellow does not make his fortune now, I hope he will never meet so favourable an opportunity.

'I beg leave to remind your Ladyship that the Governour's finances is become very low, and I suppose in a short time I will lose my credit, as my house was plundered when in prison, under a protest of finding papers and being a Royalist, and after by the Calabrace before my return here, for been a Jacobine. The last was a dirty business, as they robbed my mother-in-law of her shift.

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\* Elizabeth Douglas Hamilton, Countess of Warwick, 1720–1800, Sir William's eldest sister, who married in 1742 Francis, 1st Earl of Warwick. She was buried privately in Westminster Abbey.

She said six, tho' I never knew her and her daughter to have more than three, as I well remember they usually disputed who was to put on the clean shift of a Sunday morning, however, I was obliged to buy six shifts in order to live quiet. Pray assure her Majesty and General Acton that I can't hold out much longer; Besides, my family is increased. I have got a cat and a horse, which has been robbed frome by the Jacobines. I met him with a prince, and took immediately possession of him as my real propriety.

'I have succeeded with my authority as Governor, in recovering much of our friend Mr. Macalay's propriety. I am sorry some of his friends has purchased many things under their real value from a person they knew not authorised to dispose of them. I am told a conspiracy has just been discovered, and a sum of money found, in order to let seventeen of the principal Jacobines escape, now confined (and they say marked for execution), in the Castell-nuovo; they say the Governor (from whom they have taken the command) is deeply concerned in the business. I am sorry for him, tho' I have no acquaintance with the man, but I am told he is a brave man and a soldier. But there is something in the air of the climate that softens the nerve so much, that I never knew a man—nay, nor a woman of the country—that cou'd resist the temptation of gold.

'P.S.—In this moment 800 of the boys part for Toulone.

'I had the good fortune to succeed in regard of having the young man removed, without mentioning your Ladyship's name, which I was resolved never to do, though you gave me no prevention about it. But, the moment the business was concluded, the Governour was changed, and I am told the young man is one of the seventeen concerned in the present conspiracy now dicovered. I advised the person whom conveyed me your Ladyship's letter, not to appear so interested in the business for the present, if the young man remained in this world for a few days, the present Governour is a friend of mine and a reasonable man, of consequence, everything consisting, not deviating from his employme<sup>t</sup> as Governour, will be done in order to render the young man's *séjour* as happy as his present situation will admit.'

420. A. L. S. from Sir Joseph Banks to Charles Greville. Dated Soho Square, August 14th, 1799. 2¼ pages 4to., with Superscription. [H.]

'I am heartily glad to hear that you are alive & well, & to have an opportunity of thanking you for the plants from Skiddaw, all of which came safe, & are now growing on my bog, except the only one I had a great desire to see, & that, *sterganium ratans*, is dead & rotten, *sic transit*, &c., as the sun dial says. I wish it was in my power to tell you the price of one, that I never ask for, because it is regulated by us in a certain proportion to the price of seed at Hull which proportion having once approved I have wholly forgot.

'Seed at Hull was at Christmas, £16 10s. for that,  
at Lady Day, £17,  
at Midsummer, £18,

& a rising market, which appears by the present price of £18 10s. stated in your letter. If you want any further particulars please to write to Mr Milnes, who will, I am sure, for his own sake, answer fully all such questions as you choose to put to him, and you know that you are always at liberty to use my name on all occasions in which you think I have influence to obtain your wishes. We leave London on the 18<sup>th</sup>, and expect to arrive at Revedy on the 22<sup>nd</sup>, where we shall remain as usual for 2¾ months, except only a few days at Lincoln races, which begin the 17<sup>th</sup> of this month. If anything tempts you to take our route, which is certainly the straitest line from Castle Howard to London, we shall be happy to see you & to shew you fen plants in their natural habitations.

'Pray give my respectful comp<sup>ts</sup> to your noble host when he returns from his chasse—I had the honor of spending sometime with him as a schoolfellow at Eton—and to Lady Carlisle—a liberty I should not have taken had not her Ladyship done me the honor of acknowledging me at St. James's some short time ago in making enquiries after your peregrinations.'



421. A. L. S. from Lady Elizabeth Foster to Lady Hamilton. Dated Devonshire House, August 18th, [17]99. 1½ pages 4to. [P.]

'I have kept my bed these last few days, wh<sup>h</sup> prevents my writing above a line to thank you for your kind letter & to congratulate you on the happy change of affairs at Naples. Have the goodness to offer my sincerest congratulations to their Majestys on this occasion; nobody can rejoice more sincerely than I do, & amidst the general joy could not you, dear Lady Hamilton, add to the number of happy my friend, Miss Ashburner, & let her be a bride at last? I really believe Perconte to be a worthy man, & that he would make her happy. Adieu, dear Lady Hamilton. The D<sup>ss</sup> D. desires her best comp<sup>ts</sup> to you, &, with mine to Sir William Hamilton, I am,' &c.

422. A. L. S. from the Marquis Belmonte to the same. Dated 'Thursdaie Morning,' 1799. 1 page 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'I pray to give me your and Lord Nelson's news. I hope you'll kom to dine with me after to-morrow, and pray to carry also with you Miss Knigh, Cap<sup>n</sup> Berry, and D<sup>r</sup> Cambell. I'll be very happy to pass half a day in a so grateful comittee. Our excellent, adorable Queen has been last night severely indisposed; she is the martyr of her own too delicate feeling. Adieu, my dear Lady Hamilton.'

423. Copy of letter from Evan Nepean to Lord Nelson. Dated Admiralty Office, August 20th, 1799. 3 pages folio. [H.]

'I am commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to inform your Lordship that, from the circumstances of Lord St. Vincent's having returned to England for the recovery of his health, and Lord Keith, with other flag officers, having quitted the Mediterranean in pursuit of the combined fleets of the enemy, which are arrived at Brest, your Lordship is become senior officer of his Majesty's ships in the Mediterranean; and that, till the return of Lord Keith or some other your superior officer, you will have all the important duties of that station to attend to.

'It is probable Lord Keith will have left for your Lordship's information and guidance such orders and instructions as he may have received either from their Lordships or from Lord St. Vincent. But, lest his having quitted the station unexpectedly should have prevented his doing so, their Lordships think fit that I should point out to you those objects to which it will be necessary you should be particularly attentive.

'Your Lordship is on all occasions to cultivate to the utmost of your power the most perfect harmony and good understanding with all his Majesty's allies; co-operating cordially with, and assisting as far as circumstances will admit, their fleets and armies, and protecting their subjects: for which purposes you are, till the French shall be entirely driven out of Italy, to keep such a part of your squadron as may be found necessary on the coast of Genoa, to prevent them from receiving supplies, or to distress them in any other way that may be found practicable. Your Lordship is also to take such measures as shall to you appear most effectual for the speedy reduction of the town of Malta.

'Your Lordship is to be particularly attentive to the protection of the island of Minorca, where you are to station such a force as, from the information you may receive of the intentions of the Spaniards to attack and the preparations they make for that purpose, you shall judge necessary.

'Your Lordship is to watch the motions of the ships remaining in the port of Cadiz, stationing off that port a sufficient force to blockade it, not only to prevent their ships of war from putting to sea, and their merchant ships from entering, but also to ensure the safety of the convoys passing to and from the Mediterranean.

'Your Lordship is to be attentive to the trade of his Majesty's subjects, and that of his allies, giving it every protection in your power, and appointing convoys from one port to another, whenever other more essential services will admit of it.

'As, from the great exertions of the ships under the orders of Sir Sidney Smith, the French have been driven out of Syria, and as they will probably be very soon driven out of, or entirely destroyed in Egypt, it is their Lordships' commands that you do, whenever you shall be informed of this, and that the services of Sir Sidney are no longer required on that coast, call the ships away, and employ them on other service.

'Having stated to your Lordship the different services to which it is necessary to direct your attention, I have only to add that their Lordships have the greatest confidence in your zeal and exertions to perform them as far as the force under your orders will admit.

'I have the honour to be,' &c.

424. A. L. S. (marked private) from Mr. Spencer Smith to Sir W. Hamilton.

Dated Constantinople, August 28th, 1799. 8 pages 4to. [H.]

'Many thanks for your friendly, interesting, and instructive letter of 25. past, which, owing to Lord Nelson's kindness and Consul Foresti's activity, reached me in little more than a fortnight, greatly to the general encouragement of our friends, and Count de Ludolff's more particular comfort and revival.

'We really are much indebted to you for your Christian-like, amiable, good offices between my brother and our incomparable Admiral. I assure you, had his Lordship known us better he would not have harboured displeasure against his sincere and hearty admirers and co-operators here, so long even as may have been the case. I, for my part, hope to have given proofs enough that when it becomes a question to advance the King's service, to honor those by whom he is well served, and enhance the value of our national performances here, that *Tros Tyriusve mihi nullo discrim.* Lord Nelson, Captain Hood, Sir Sidney Smith, owe me equal justice upon this point. Nay, even Captain Mackellar, by the grace of the Admiralty, Commander of the *Charon*, who treated us all here like so many *excisemen* (and *talked of cutting off the ears of one of the interpreters of my legation*), would, if SWORN TO THE TRUTH, be forced to acknowledge that no British ship ever received more *solid* hospitality in any foreign port, nor his own person, I am bold to say, such a distinguished reception *anywhere*. I am convinced that, was I only to allude to half the circumstances of his public conduct and private language when here, he would never have an opportunity of repeating such an offensive display, which is farther than I wish to carry vindictive justice, but it is necessary for the harmony of my intercourse with the navy, and for their own popularity here, that violence of behaviour, punctilious self importance, and the mistaken idea of gaining consequence in the eyes of the people by setting at nought, and treating *de haut en bas*, the national establishments on shore they have been accustomed to respect, and which, unfortunately, formed the principle of Mr Mackellar's conduct, should be corrected by suitable instructions from the Admiral to future visitors of the same description.

'I have not failed to make known to my brother His Sicilian Majesty's gracious and flattering remembrance. I hope that Count de Ludolff does not fail to do justice to the constancy of my co-operation upon all occasions that admit of my shewing my sincere respect for his Court, and I should be much gratified if you would take an opportunity of expressing my personal as well as official attachment to the Neapolitan interests. I may, I am sure, anticipate Sir Sidney's affectionate compliments to your good self; and the commission to assure Lord Nelson of his respect for him as a chief, his esteem for him as a man, and emulation of him as an officer, and add that I, who know him from infancy, can vouch for his heart being in its right place, and incapable of jealousy or envy, or any of the other vices of the Litany. I am often astonished at seeing the way he is misrepresented in the world, and how enthusiastic attachment to his profession, military ardour, and the laudable ambition of youth, is taken for *Quixotism* affectation of singularity, or vain glory. I should not (if I am not extremely mistaken in my ideas of the gallant Hero of the Nile) be surprised to see my brother his flag captain, if they ever served three months together.

'I congratulate you most heartily upon all the brilliant and salutary events that must have led so much to your individual comfort. May I beg you to make such



compliments common to Lady Hamilton, whose interesting qualities and amical disposition are not confined to the Two Sicilies. The only *present* the French officers whom we delivered from the gallies half naked last winter, some of whom had served with rank in Italy, was a *paste Intaglio* of her Ladyship's fine profile, which they gave *en tribut de reconnoissance* to my wife, with such eulogiums as bore the stamp of veracity & sincerity. I have had occasion to verify the reality of the likeness by a duplicate on the Abbé Bertrand's finger, from whom, by the bye, you will find a letter inclosed. He came here from Trieste a few weeks ago much recommended to me by Lord Henley,\* and I have shewn with much pleasure to this interesting man, Æsop in mind & body, such attentions as my own deranged position since the fire has left me in a situation to shew, inhabiting my neighbour's roof. Lord Grenville gives me some hopes that His Majesty may be pleased to make me some allowance from his royal bounty towards helping me to bear the ruinous loss I have incurred—ruinous, as you may suppose, to a *younger* son of *Jack Smith's*, tho' the amount may not sound great to the ears of Majesty or Ministry.

'As your communications, both maritime and continental, are now open, it would be carrying coals to Newcastle to give you any European intelligence. As I give Lord Nelson an account of Levant operations in his department, I shall confine myself to what must be *news, great news*, to you.

'On the 12. February Lord Mornington† received a letter from *Tippoo Sultaun* expressive of a reluctant assent to the admission of our embassy so frequently and earnestly proposed to him. But the season for negotiation thro' the pacific channel so unavailingly opened by the Governor-General was now elapsed. His Lordship had already ordered the army to move! He, therefore, replied on the 22. February, referring Tippoo to the Commander-in-Chief, who the same day passed the frontier and commenced the operations on the 5. March by the reduction of several forts. Tippoo was at this time supposed to be encamped in the Eastern vicinity of his capital, but it appeared that he had marched on the 28. February to attack our Western army under Gen. Stuart at Periapatam, where he was completely defeated on 6. March by very inferior numbers. Here he remained till 11. March, when he retreated hastily to Seringapatnam, which he reached on the 14. on his passage to meet General Harris,‡ which took place between *Sultaripet* and *Malaveli* on the 26<sup>th</sup>, giving battle the next day (27. March), when he lost 2000 men & 6 standards. On the 29<sup>th</sup> Gen. H., by a happy manœuvre turned the enemy, forded the Cavery at an unexpected place, and took post 15 miles from the capital; during which Lieut. Col. Read was employed reducing the country to the N. of *Riakota*, while Lt Col. Broun, at the head of a respectable detachment, began his operations to the S. by the reduction of Caroor on 5. April. On the 8. & 9. he made himself master of Errode & Arravacourchy. On 1. April Gen. H. moved towards Seringapat<sup>n</sup>, and on y<sup>e</sup> 5 encamped 2 miles S. W., of that city. On the 6. we took several outposts, and Gen. Floyd§ was sent to operate the junction with the Bombay army, which took place on y<sup>e</sup> 10<sup>th</sup>. From this time the siege went gradually on till the 4. May, when Gen. Harris ordered the place to be stormed at 1 p.m. At half-past 2 o'clock Seringapatam was the General's headquarters; Tippoo Sultaan *no more*, his two elder sons fallen with him, and the most distinguished of his generals; while the remainder of his family and Government were prisoners in the British camp. The above is the cream of what Lord Mornington has been so good as to write to me on this occasion which I sent home last night.

\* Morton Eden, 1st Baron Henley, 1752–1830, Lord Auckland's youngest brother. He was at different times engaged in important diplomatic missions, and was for some time Minister at Dresden.

† Richard, 2nd Earl of Mornington and 1st Marquis of Wellesley, 1760–1842, eldest brother of the Duke of Wellington, created a Marquis in 1799 for his eminent services as Governor-General of India. He was also twice Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland.

‡ George Harris, 1st Lord Harris, 1746–1829, a general in the army who frequently commanded in India, and was created a Baron in 1815.

§ Sir John Floyd, 1748–1818, went to Madras as a Lieut.-Colonel in 1782, and remained there 18 years, during which he showed himself the most accomplished English cavalry commander who ever served in South India. He was promoted to be a General in 1812, and in 1816 was created a Baronet.

'And thus, my dear sir, I repay you in kind for all your good news. Pray shew Lord Nelson as much of this letter as you may think likely to please him, and he will doubtless communicate to you all the sea news worth knowing; tho' they may be no longer so to him by this circuitous route.

'Foresti having informed me that the Admiral and yourself have written home in his favour, I have done so likewise; not that I suppose such recommendation to need a makeweight, but because I have really experienced much utility, both officially and individually, from his active zeal and intelligent correspondence, that I should be wanting to myself to be behind hand in an act of justice and be sorry to be left out in such a mark of attention to merit.

'It may be useful to be known in your quarter that the East India Company's agent at Aleppo, Mr Robert Abbott, is dead and replaced by Mr John Barker.

'Mr *Mourndgen d'Ohsson*, of very notorious reputation, has been superseded by the Court of Sweden, who have sent here a Mr *König* as *Chargé d'Affaires*. His Jacobin predecessor has set out for *Stockholm* by way of Zante and Corfou, &c. &c. *Avis au lecteur*. I have,' &c.

'P. S. I annex a paper long ago copied for you and forgotten on my Secretary's table, as also an India newspaper by way of *Remplissage*.'

425. A.L.S. (marked private), from Sir Sydney Smith to Sir W. Hamilton.

Dated '*Tigre*, Limasol,' September 9th (1799). 4 pages 4to. [H.]

'I reserve the question of Lord Nelson's censure of me unheard for a chapter apart, not that I mean to enter into any new discussion about it, being perfectly satisfied of his return of cordiality towards me, as conveyed to me in strong terms by Captain Stiles, and confident that, as we have both but one object to which all our exertions tend, we never can separate far. Could he have conceived how much such a letter as his first to me paralyzed all my exertions, and destroyed all combination with these helpless, stupid people, he would never have written it. The same hand, however, which gave the blow, has applied the remedy, & I now go on again with confidence, anxious only that my last letter to him (which I think I collect from yours you have seen) may not be construed to imply an intention of tenacity & self justification, beyond what every man ought to manifest who values the esteem of the person with whom he is in discussion. I could appeal to the source from whence I received my powers and instructions, whether I have done anything beyond what the service required in the line pointed out to me by them. My heart bears testimony that I never felt otherwise towards Lord Nelson than as his inferior in all professional matters, with the most cordial esteem for, and admiration of him personally, considering myself then under every point of view, public and private, entitled to his confidence and support. I own I felt the knock-down blow from behind at a time when I had as much as I could well manage in front, very severely. I hope no ill humour appear'd in my answer, & that the weight of some of the expressions has not had the effect of renewing his displeasure after his letter of the 24 July, which I had not then received; if it has, I trust to you to remove it. Nobody certainly is so well able as the mutual friend of both, & I hope I need not assure you of the deference with which I shall receive any advice you may have the goodness to give me on that or any other subject for my guidance. Having said thus much, I may take my leave of this for ever, I hope, & let my attention revert to the arduous duties before me, which I assure you, considering the extent of my official correspondence, & the various languages I am obliged to treat in, are quite enough for any one head. I feel happy that you are going to remain the winter, as well on the score of the public service & useful co-operation as on account of your health, which must suffer from a sudden change of climate at the bad season. I beg my kindest regards to Lady Hamilton. I trust you have the goodness to keep me alive in the remembrance of the King, as the person whose quarantain he was graciously pleased to shorten in order that I might go to Toulon, where my heart had long been. I shall be happy when the time comes, that I may claim a similar indulgence in the confidence of the precaution English ships always take within themselves to preserve health. You know best how far it may be proper to say any thing from me on the score of congratulation. I need not tell how strongly I



who know the directorial villains, thoroughly feel the value of all that has passed lately towards their final overthrow. Their speculation on our empire in India are at an end as you will see by the enclosed papers. Let me hear from you frequently, and as much in detail as you have been so good as to write hitherto, & believe me,' &c.

426. A. L. S. from Matthew Wade to Lady Hamilton. Dated Naples, September 14th, 1799. 2 pages folio. [P.]

'Every thing here is held in suspense. The great question is, who is to be hanged, and who is to be beheaded. Few or none dispute that they don't merit death, but then to prolong the moment, each produces his privilege, just as if it was of any consequence whether a man goes to Heaven in a coach and six or in a wheelbarrow. In the meantime nothing is done. They may form as many junctos as they will, the more, the more delays and the more subject to intrigues. In short it must be one man that can resolve, and has authority to do it.

'I have here your friend Monsignore Gambone, and as I am told he has some propriety I have unlighted with him in the same prison two miserable fellows that has nothing to eat, and desired them that as soon as Monsignore's dinner arrived that they shou'd partake of it, as surely that is real equality and liberty.

'I have been told that Lord Nelson is expected here every moment in a frigate, and from hence to take the command of the grand fleet, then it seems he is destined to destroy the French. I am very sorry he quits these seas, as his name alone was of consiquence, and we are far from been quiet here, and if I don't mistake, he will be very poorly re-implaced by the Muscovite fleet. Besides, we are far from being quiet here. This juncto of state proceeds so slowly in not hanging the guilty, nor freeing the innocent, occasions a great ferment in the people. Besides, their own situation is far from being agreeable, as they were under the necessity to call for sixty of the English marins in order to guard them, where I was obliged to attend for some time.

'Nothing has been done in regard of your Ladyship's and Lord Nelson's recommendation in regard of me, so that my situation becomes every day more disagreeable, as am subject to many unavoidable expenses attending the employment without any pay or perquisites of consiquence, my finance is become very low, therefore, I beg leave to pray that your Ladyship will take an opportunity to mention this doleful circumstance to her Majesty or General Acton. I beg my respects to Mrs. Cadogan, Sir William, Lord Nelson, Mrs. Graffer and family, Messrs. Gibbs, Noble, Nudi, Macaulay, and am,' &c.

427. A. L. S. from Mr. Compton to the same. Dated Posilipo, Naples, September 16th, 1799. 8 pages 4to. [P.]

'Having resolved to go to the Continent, and there wait for an opportunity to get to England, I could not think of quitting this miserable city without apprizing your Ladyship of our approaching departure, and particularly thanking you for all your obliging kindnesses during the short time you honoured the Bay of Naples with your stay.

'Mrs. Compton requested me to make her best acknowledgements & grateful remembrance acceptable to your Ladyship, for your & Lord Nelson's kind protection of the good Mr. Marchetti, unfortunate, but innocent of all real fault, and highly meritorious in having saved to his sovereign's loyal subjects a large portion of the contribution required by the French, whom he, by this means, deprived of the opportunity of carrying away more than two-fifth parts of the sum they had exacted, & notwithstanding all threats concealed, instead of discovering the bales of merchandise entrusted to him by *English merchants*, and after the French departure, sending them to the custom house for those English merchants benefit.

'He never would suffer a Frenchman in his house. He was always a most loyal subject, & when forced he never took the least active part in the place he had been compelled to fill. He associated with none of his colleagues; did not even know them. On this view Lord Nelson & your Ladyship obtained on

request to General Acton, that he should not be arrested by the Giunto, & with your parting words told us he was perfectly safe, the order being given to the Giunto to exempt him. Nevertheless he has always people coming to frighten him, pretending they are to arrest him. We have been extremely worried, & are persuaded it is all knavery, by a parcel of fellows, to alarm & fleece the poor man who is ruined, having been twice sacked, & lost great sums in money & policies there, & his family will be so if the *sequestration is not taken off*. His trade will be destroyed if he cannot answer the bills, which he is hindered from doing by all his paper being sequestered. Dr Lady Hamilton, compleat your own *good work*, obtain the sequestration to be taken off, & a quietus sent him by his Majesty's order from the Giunto. For God's sake restore a worthy, honest man & family to their former state, not only their blessing & gratitude will attend yr Ladyship for ever, but we ourselves shall carry with us to England & everywhere a grateful sense of it as a favour & kind memorial bestowed on us, & we shall be happy to blazon so noble a work of goodness & charity of yr Ladyship, &c., in England and amongst our countrymen abroad. Permit me also, dr Lady Hamilton, to solicit also your interest in support of the memorials I forwarded for Cap<sup>tn</sup> Martino & family's being employed, as he & his sons were distinguished for good & brave conduct in his S.M.'s service, & never were employed by the Republic, and also for D. Nicolo Ferrari, who married Martino's eldest daughter, a brave, clever officer long in his My<sup>s</sup> service, forced by the French to serve in the National Civic Cavalry. He was *only inspector* a very short time, took not in *any way* an *active part*, had no other way to avoid being shot, or forced to serve in the troops of the line sent ag<sup>st</sup> his My<sup>s</sup> forces. He shammed sickness, & thus escaped the earliest day possible to the Cardinal, who actually employed him in his rank of cap<sup>tn</sup> but was unfortunately obliged to supersede him on the coming out of his My<sup>s</sup> order. I am sure if yr Ly<sup>sp</sup> saw his dejected air yr heart w<sup>d</sup> feel pain. His My<sup>s</sup> has not, I know, a more loyal subject. I beg yr Lady<sup>sp's</sup> favour for his restoration, & the employment of Cap<sup>tn</sup> Martino & his 3 brave sons as officers. I have had a long friendship, & I shall be eternally obliged to your Ly<sup>sp</sup>. It will be some comfort to M<sup>rs</sup> Compton & me for leaving this once agreeable residence, but now a wretched one. Your Lady<sup>sp</sup> delights in serving the unfortunate, 'tis for such only I solicit. I have no other views than doing good thro' your Lady<sup>sp's</sup> means. I have no doubt of your Lady<sup>sp's</sup> readiness to assist these, my old friends, to oblige me, who shall always retain a due sense of the favor.

'But, my dr Lady Hamilton, your very soul will be so moved with the distress of our most unfortunate country woman, M<sup>rs</sup> Palombi & her family, that I should think I affronted your own humane feelings and female sensibility if I was to endeavour to increase your disposition to give them immediate succour by any solicitations or arguments of mine or of my dr, tender M<sup>rs</sup> Compton; in attempting to heighten I might weaken the colouring which her own pathetic address has given to her dreadful situation. In short, she & her family are in an actual *starving* condition. M<sup>rs</sup> C. & I have had particular opportunities of knowing it. You w<sup>d</sup> be shocked at the scene of misery which that house presents—3 children, one at the breast, no money, no servants, scarcely one to attend the children & all; M<sup>rs</sup> P. herself brought up in a manner which has made her helpless, besides her being always an invalid. I assure you, dr Ly<sup>s</sup> Hamilton, no pen of mine, nor an hundred more, c<sup>d</sup> paint their great & small miseries; the task w<sup>d</sup> be too painful for me to detail, & too distressing for your Ladyship to read. We have done all in our power, we have assisted them considerably in many ways. Had it *not* been for us an English lady, well-born, well-educated, & with far better, nay, considerable prospects in life before her unfortunate marriage; living at ease in plenty & luxury at her father's, a gent<sup>n</sup> of a good estate, the transition is the more horrid, & in a foreign country, without one to help her, without any other tie than mere acquaintance. I cannot pretend to support so large a family. We have, however, the satisfaction of humanity to a really worthy lady & country woman, & may say that without us she & her family w<sup>d</sup> have absolutely starved. Nearly allied too, as she is, to Sir W<sup>m</sup> Hamilton & his B. My<sup>s</sup> Minister, with splendid fortune & appointments, the favorite of the K. & Q. of the 2 Sicilies, and who I may say has been highly instrumental individually & nationally in reinstating them to their throne of Naples, if they will come to possess it & restore happiness



to this once flourishing city. Indeed, my Lady, you & S<sup>r</sup> W<sup>m</sup> have a right to ask almost anything of their Majesties. We shall not long be in this country. Without your effectual aid what will become of M<sup>rs</sup> P. & her family? Shall it be told that so nearly allied to S<sup>r</sup> W<sup>m</sup> they perished thro' absolute want, or put a miserable end to a wretched existence thro' despair?

'They are over head & ears in debt, by what I find ; amidst the large donations of their Majesties, five hundred ounces bestowed on so noble a charity as relieving her & family for the present out of their very pressing difficulties really would not be missed out of their Majesties' purses. To them it w<sup>d</sup> be nothing ; it w<sup>d</sup> be laying up a lasting treasure in Heaven ; those alms w<sup>d</sup> go up before you & them to the throne of Grace, an acceptable intercession to God, before whom even kings & queens, as well as us, all must be judged hereafter. Tho' the Chev<sup>r</sup> may not be fit for a place which requires great talent, yet in all countries there are many employments which require no talents at all. At this time such an one w<sup>d</sup> not be refused to S<sup>ir</sup> W<sup>m</sup> for a Neapolitan nearly allied by marriage to S<sup>r</sup> W<sup>m</sup>. Persons under the pressure of distressed circumstances, my Lady, do not, we know, appear to advantage ; set a little at ease they would both be more agreeable, & owing every thing, their very existence, to y<sup>r</sup> Ladyship, would with grateful hearts sound y<sup>r</sup> praises as their saviour from destruction. Pardon me, my d<sup>r</sup> Lady Hamilton, for requesting the most speedy relief for them, and, if not too great a presumption to hope such an honour, M<sup>rs</sup> Compton & I shall feel proud & happy if you will condescend to give us a few lines. We beg you will present our most sincere best respects & esteem to Lord Nelson, assuring him that wherever we shall be the sense of his kindness & our joy at every success, &c., that shall attend him will follow us ; the same for your Ladyship will also accompany us, and I have the honor to remain with all regard & respect,' &c.

'M<sup>rs</sup> C. & I beg our best respects to S<sup>r</sup> W<sup>m</sup> and kindest remembrances to good M<sup>rs</sup> Cadogan, & comp<sup>s</sup> to M<sup>rs</sup> Graffer, hoping to hear y<sup>r</sup> L<sup>ysp</sup>, &c. &c., all enjoy your healths.

'P.S. Sir W<sup>m</sup> & Lord Nelson will be so obliging as to communicate to your Ladyship my letter to each of them, indeed I consider the writing to one the same as to all. Your joint exertions to oblige M<sup>rs</sup> C. and me will be irresistible. Who c<sup>d</sup> refuse anything to your Ladyship's winning graces? My dear M<sup>rs</sup> Compton having a just claim of 1212 ducats on the effects of the Piatti rebels for a debt due to her late husband, more detailed to S<sup>r</sup> W<sup>m</sup> & Lord Nelson—it becomes a debt attached to the effects seized for their Majesties, for Piatti's effects being confiscated for their treasons, there is no reason that an English lady sh<sup>d</sup> suffer by her debtors having turned traitors, therefore she earnestly requests your Lady<sup>sp</sup> to use your interest that so much may be directly paid to her out of the effects of Piatti. It was money, the merchandise sell for money, and as we are going to leave the country she relies on their Majesties' generosity and justice to order the *immediate payment to her* of the twelve hundred & twelve ducats in money. It is her's, not mine. 'Tis the only personal favour we have troubled y<sup>r</sup> Ladyship, L<sup>d</sup> Nelson, or S<sup>r</sup> W<sup>m</sup> with. The unfortunate are happy in having such noble, generous, kind, powerful protectors. I c<sup>d</sup> be only of small use to them in my private sphere. Permit me to supplicate y<sup>r</sup> leave to transfer them more particularly to your Ladyship's real protection, as they are about to lose their mediator out of this country. I have always told them that I claimed no merit in serving them with my & M<sup>rs</sup> Compton's little aid, but that all the merit was your Lady<sup>sp</sup>'s, and that your heart was glad of opportunities to do good. I lament & beg your Ladyship, S<sup>r</sup> W<sup>m</sup>, & L<sup>d</sup> N., will pardon me for having so often troubled you ; blame, I entreat, the times & situations, not any forwardness of mine.

'Last Friday I was obliged to urge strongly his Majesty's exemption of Marchetti from arrest by the Giunto at Lord N's. request, Lord Nelson's signed protection, written by your Ladyship, against people who came without any order of the Giunto to produce, and I was sure his gracious Majesty, or his Minister, w<sup>d</sup> never break their word to Lord Nelson, or disrespect his signature, that therefore, contrary to your Ladyship's last words to us, no counter order existed. I looked on it as a trick to fleece the poor man by frightening him. I smartly reprimanded those who pretended to come on such an errand. I shewed Lord N's paper, & related all M<sup>rs</sup> C's. solicitations, L<sup>d</sup> N.'s great caution and prudence before he

applied, and the good effect of it. To prevent all misrepresentation, only I just mention it, if necessary, I have the details, even rough papers of the people w<sup>h</sup> they unawares left behind, & will shew a premeditated insult on the insult, & that the man was acting with his eyes open. I wrote a full account to Cap<sup>tn</sup> Trowbridge & have had it back, and am now perfectly convinced all was of Neapolitan character—a villainous artifice. I would not give way to it; my strict adherence to truth & honor are well known, if necessary I will send the detail.'

428. A. L. S. from Captain Ball to the same. Dated Malta, October 9th, 1799. 2½ pages 4to. [P.]

'Although I could not be personally with you on the birthday of his Grace de Bronté, my heart participated in all your joys. I frequently reflected on the delights which you and Sir William feel whenever you can give further proofs of your esteem and friendship for his Grace.

'I have just received his letter acquainting me with his intention of collecting his squadron and steering to intercept the enemy. I sincerely hope the cruise will re-establish his health, which the bad air of Palermo did not agree with.

'I suppose you will soon return to Naples. There cannot now be any danger from Jacobinism. Thank God! it is no longer the rage, and that the Jacobins themselves begin to be ashamed of it. Our scene at Malta will be very active. I hope soon we shall succeed in compelling the French to surrender. I write to Sir William to request he will once more stand forth the benevolent friend of the Maltese, and if your Ladyship will have the goodness to second his views and prevail on the Queen to assist us, you will save thousands from misery and death. I have just procured for your Ladyship a very beautiful ass, and one of the best in this island. I shall request the Marquis de Niza to give me an opportunity of sending it.

'I beg you to accept of my sincere good wishes, and that you will believe me, with infinite respect and esteem,' &c.

429. A. L. S. from Lord Nelson to Sir W. Hamilton. Dated '*Foudroyant*, October 11<sup>th</sup>, 40 leagues from Mahon.' 3¼ pages 4to. [H.]

'I wrote you a line last night by a vessel we spoke 16 days from Naples, bound to Mahon, in case anything should have prevented my reaching that island. As the wind is to the Eastward, if General Fox\* is not arrived, it is my intention to push for Gibraltar, arrange matters there if the French are coming this road, and return to Mahon, to enforce the very strong letter I have wrote to Sir James St. Clair† to lay before General Fox (should I miss him), representing in my best manner the absolute necessity of taking Malta, and in 14 days I hope to be in Mahon. Their Sicilian Majestys may rest assured of my zeal in the service of our own King, and it so happens that I can never serve him so well as by paying every attention to the affairs of their Sicilian Majestys, and thus my public duty becomes my private happiness. I hope the air of the Colli has agreed with you better than the Mole. I cannot say the sea air has in the least benefitted me, but that may be attributed to the news of the *Salamine*, which I did not know till after I got on board & Cap<sup>t</sup> Briggs was gone to you, viz., that the Toulon ships had been met with at sea steer<sup>g</sup> for Malta, which now I do not believe, but I sent him to Malta in the moment, and in the next place to the desire of making a quick passage and having first a gale of foul wind and since light breezes; till this morning we have never had what might be called a fair wind, but I now hope to

\* Henry Edward Fox, 1755-1811, son of Henry Fox, 1st Lord Holland, and younger brother of Charles James Fox. He was gazetted a cornet at the age of 15, served all through the War of Independence, became a Captain in 1774, a Colonel in 1783, and Lieutenant-General in 1799. In 1804 he was appointed Lieutenant-General of Gibraltar, and in 1806 to the command of the army in Sicily, when he also became Ambassador at the Court of Naples. In 1808 he was made Governor of Portsmouth.

† Sir James St. Clair-Erskine, 2nd Earl of Rosslyn, 1762-1837, nephew of Alexander Wedderburn, 1st Earl of Rosslyn, whom he succeeded in 1805. Sir James was a general officer, and was Colonel of the 9th Dragoons.



get off Mahon at daylight, have Darby on board before 8, and by noon made sail to the Westward, for I am almost sure Gen<sup>l</sup> Fox cannot be arrived. Except the *Earl St Vincent* cutter, none of the small vessels follow me to Gib<sup>r</sup>, and she only for the purpose of carrying you intelligence. Your letters, therefore, except by her or some very extraordinary event will find me at Mahon, with every,' &c.

'11 o'clock. Not a syllable of news at this place. The *Earl St. Vincent* cutter was the last vessel from Gibraltar.'

430. A. L. S. from the same to the same. Dated Port Mahon, October 13th, 1799. 4 pages 4to. [H.]

'After finishing all my business at that moment at Mahon, and having left the island, I fell in with the *Bull Dog* sloop of war from Gib<sup>r</sup>, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Oct in the even<sup>g</sup> (in which ship came passenger Sir Edw<sup>d</sup> Barry to command the *Foudroyant*). By her I have letters from Ad<sup>l</sup> Duckworth telling me that our outward bound Mediterranean convoy had put into the Tagus on the information of the enemy's squadron being off Cape Ortegal. This squadron has never been seen since the 8<sup>th</sup> or 9<sup>th</sup> Sep<sup>t</sup>, and both at Lisbon & Gib<sup>r</sup> they almost doubt that any squadron has been seen. However that may be, Ad<sup>l</sup> Duckworth is so sure that they are not in his rout that he was going with the homeward bound convoy to the Westward of Cape St. Vincent, and from thence off Lisbon to bring the Med<sup>r</sup> convoy to Gib<sup>r</sup>. All this information determined me to return to Mahon as my arrangements for getting ships to Gib<sup>r</sup> are upset by the disbelief of intelligence. I am in a fever of anxiety about these ships seen steering towards Malta. The *Salamine*, who I sent to Niza, may be hourly expected. I went to Sir James St. Clair Erskine last evening, Gen<sup>l</sup> Fox not expecting to leave London till the end of Sep., but from what I saw I am fearful I shall not get a soldier for the service of Malta or for the kingdom of Naples, but this morning I am going seriously to talk with him on these subjects. If Malta should unfortunately be relieved perhaps all our efforts will be in vain. Now I am just come from Sir James; he sees all the difficulty of taking Malta in the clearest point of views, and therefore it became an arduous task to make him think that with God's blessing the thing was possible (as to troops for Italy it is out of the question, for by a direction from Mr Dundas it is desired to draw the English garrison from Messina, & nothing, you will recollect, prevented this measure long ago but my keeping back the order for the embarkation of the garrison)—but to return to Malta, which is at present my great object. If it is not relieved by *men* embarked in those ships, Sir James will, I think, aid the attack with 1500 troops, stores, &c., from this island, but even this will only be provided the Russians will give 1000 good men, the garrison of Messina, which he calculates at 1000 more, 1000 landed from the ships, besides all the Maltese which will bear arms or work in our batteries. I have promised to take care I feed them & never to leave them. I know all this will be an expence of £50,000 to our country for one month, but I mind nothing to finish our Italian matters, & to place H. S. M<sup>y</sup> free from all danger and annoyance. Sir John Acton, I am confident, will support us with corn for Malta & whatever else we may want. This has been my first conference, but Gen<sup>l</sup> Fox being expected it is a sad stumbling block. However, I am to go to Palermo & settle the other part of this arraignment, and be all ready to meet at a certain time & place. It has cost me four hours hard labour, and may be upset by a fool. However, I have prevailed on Sir James to command the expedition even as Commander-in-chief at Minorca. My next will be by words as soon as I can arrange the many matters wanted here. We have just saluted ships & forts for our glorious success in Holland. Yours,' &c.

431. A. L. S. from Captair Ball to Lady Hamilton. Dated Malta, October 23rd, 1799. 2 pages folio, with Superscription. [P.]

'I had the pleasure of writing to you by the *Transfer*, as I have experienced your goodness on a variety of occasions, and know the pleasure you have in alleviating the misfortunes of others. I most earnestly solicit your influence with her Sic. Majesty to assist the Maltese. Sir William will shew you my letter on the subject. If your Ladyship knew half their sufferings I am sure you would

be their warm advocate. I have more uneasiness and anxiety on their account than I can describe. However, I hope yet all will end well, and that we shall meet next year in dear old England. I hope you will soon get into your comfortable and hospitable mansion at Naples, where Sir William can have the enjoyments he has been accustomed to. I suppose by this time his Grace of Bronté has joined you. I wish he could be prevailed on to write less because I am very apprehensive he impairs his health by leaning so much; pray inform me of his state of health. I trust that Sir Thomas Trowbridge will now forget what he considered his misfortune in the battle of the Nile, and which preyed much upon his mind. I suppose the Palermo fetes are now over, but when you get to Naples you will have a fresh round to welcome your return, before which I hope you will re-establish your health to enable you to go through such hard service.

'I have the honour,' &c.

432. A. L. S. from Canon Emmanuele Gavallà to Lord Nelson.

Dated Zante, October 30th, 1799. 2 pages 4to.

Having with the help of God escaped from the dangers of the Naples revolution of December 22<sup>d</sup>, I went to the siege of Corfu, whence in compliance with my duty I informed your Excellency of my arrival. On my return to my native country, I have submitted a report to this noble council, on the scheme which I had formed for the liberation and happiness of these islands, and as proofs of my assertions, I sent copies of the programmes, which by order of your Excellency were printed there, and then delivered to me for the said salutary purpose. Sig<sup>r</sup> Spiridion Foresti, most zealous Consul in this town, corroborated my statements, adding that your Excellency honored me with your most kind benevolence, and that you wished to see me reinstated in my parish of Cefalonia, whence without any reason I had been expelled by the French. The council received my statement with full satisfaction, but instead of endeavouring to reinstate me in the parish of Cefalonia, formerly ruined by the French, thought best to bestow upon me the curateship of Sant Antonio at the Lazzarettos in this my native town, as indeed they elected me by the majority of votes on the same day. My bishop wishing, moreover, to give a manifest sign of his sympathy towards my humble person for having worked for the good cause among so many dangers and tribulations, he was pleased to appoint me a canon of his cathedral.

As all this has reached me through the kind patronage of your Excellency, I fulfil now my duty to inform you of it, while I submit at the same time my most humble expressions of thanks, and beseech you to order the Consul Sig<sup>r</sup> Foresti to give some hint to this noble council, of your most kind satisfaction for what they have decided to my advantage out of respectful homage to your wishes. As God does not disregard the prayer of the humble ones, I trust also that your Excellency will not disdain from casting a benign look upon these rough lines, and that you will receive with your usual boundless benevolence my ardent supplications. While I have the high honor of kissing with devotion that victorious hand which has been the means to save religion and a throne, I beg to remain with deepest respect, &c.

433. A. L. S. from the Duchess of Buccleuch\* to Sir W. Hamilton.

Dated Dalkeith House, October 30th 1799. 3 pages 4to. [H].

'Will you allow a very old acquaintance to trouble you with a letter of recommendation, which I have been very earnestly solicited to write to you in favour of the Vicomte de Vaudreuil† who is very desirous of entering into the Neapolitan service with the rank of Col. He commanded a reg<sup>t</sup> in the French

\* Elizabeth Montagu, Duchess of Buccleuch, daughter of George, Duke of Montague, and wife of Henry, 3rd Duke of Buccleuch, whom she married in 1767. She died in 1827.

† Jean Louis, Vicomte de Vaudreuil, 1763-1816, cousin of Joseph, Count de Vaudreuil, under whom he served before the Revolution, on the breaking out of which he emigrated, and did not return to France until after the '*Restauration*.' He married in 1783, Victoire Pauline de Caraman, who after his death became '*Dame de Compagnie*' to the Duchess d'Angoulême.



service before the Revolution, he has now the rank of March<sup>l</sup> de Camp in France. After the Revolution, he served in Holland in an emigrant corps which is now reduced, & I believe him to be a very good officer.

'I have known both him & Mad<sup>e</sup> de Vaudreuil, who is a most estimable woman, ever since their misfortunes have obliged them to take refuge in this country, & it would give infinite pleasure to have it in my power in any way to be of service to them or render their present situation more comfortable. They are not entirely unknown to you, having been at Naples some years ago; but, from the variety of strangers you have seen travelling, they think you may not remember them, & therefore wished very much that I would recall them to your remembrance. They naturally think that at *this time* any recommendation from the *British* minister must have great weight, and indeed there is little doubt it must. I cannot conclude my letter without congratulating you on the happy termination of the troubles in the country which you have so long inhabited. That you must feel a particular interest in what concerns it, & also upon the noble exertions and success of our brave countrymen on this occasion. I will not detain you longer than to assure you I am with much regard,' &c.

'The Duke of Buccleuch desires me to make his best compliments.'

434. Copy of a letter from Lord Nelson to the Czar of Russia.\* Dated Palermo, October 31st, 1799. 4 pages folio. [P.]

'As Grand Master of the Order of Malta, I presume to detail to your Majesty what has been done to prevent the French from re-possessing themselves of the island, blockading them closely in La Valetta, and what means are now pursuing to force them to surrender.

'On the 2nd of September, 1798, the inhabitants of Malta rose against the French robbers, who having taken all the money in the island, levied heavy contributions, and Vaubois, as a last act of villany, said, 'As baptism was of no use, he had sent for all the church plate.'

'On the 9th I received a letter from the deputies of the island, praying assistance to drive the French from La Valetta. I immediately directed the Marquis de Niza, with four sail of the line, to support the islanders. At this time the crippled ships from Egypt were passing near it, and 2000 stand of arms, complete with all the musket-ball cartridges, were landed from them, and 200 barrels of powder.

'On the 24th of October I relieved the Marquis from that station, and having taken the island of Gozo, a measure absolutely necessary in order to form the complete blockade of La Valetta, the garrison of which at this time was composed of 7000 French, including the seamen and some few Maltese. The inhabitants of the town about 30,000. The Maltese in arms (volunteers), never exceeded 3000. I entrusted the blockade to Captain Alexander John Ball, of the *Alexander*, of 74 guns, an officer not only of the highest merit, but of the most conciliating manners; from that period to this time it has fallen to my lot to arrange matters for the feeding 60,000 people (the population of Malta and Gozo), and the arming of the peasantry, and, what is the most difficult task of all, that of keeping up harmony between the deputies of the island. Hunger, fatigue, and corruption appeared several times in the island, and amongst the Deputies. The situation of Italy, and in particular the kingdom of Naples, oftentimes reduced me to the greatest difficulties where to find food.

'Their Sicilian Majesties, at different times, have given more, I believe, than 40,000*l.* in money and corn. The blockade has, in the expense of keeping the ships destined alone for this service, cost full 180,000*l.* sterling.

'It has pleased God hitherto, to bless our endeavours to prevent supplies getting to the French, except one frigate, and two small vessels with a small portion of salt provisions.

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\* Paul I. Petrovitch, 1754-1801, Czar of Russia, son of Catherine II., whom he succeeded in 1796. After the occupation of Malta by the French, the then Grand Master, de Hompesch, having accepted a pension from the Directory, was declared a traitor to his Order, and the Grand Mastership was offered to Paul under reservation of the papal supremacy with regard to spiritual authority.

'Your Majesty will have the goodness to observe, that until it was known that you were elected Grand Master, and that the Order was to be restored in Malta, I never allowed an idea to go abroad that Great Britain had any wish to keep it. I therefore directed his Sicilian Majesty's flag to be hoisted; as I am told, had the Order not been restored, that he is the legitimate Sovereign of the island. Never less than 500 men have been landed from the squadron, which although with the volunteers not sufficient to commence a siege, have yet kept posts and batteries not more than 400 yards from the works. The quarrels of the nobles, the misconduct of the chiefs, rendered it absolutely necessary that some proper person should be placed at the head of the island. His Sicilian Majesty, therefore, at the united request of the whole island, named Captain Ball as their chief director, and he will hold it until your Majesty, as Grand Master, appoints a person to the office.

'Now the French are nearly expelled from Italy by the valour and skill of your generals and army, all my thoughts are turned towards placing the Grand Master, and the Order of Malta, in security in La Valetta; for which purpose I have just been at Minorca, and arranged with the English General a force of 2500 British troops, cannons, bombs, &c., for the siege. I have written to your Majesty's Admiral, and his Sicilian Majesty joins cordially in the good work of endeavouring to drive the French from Malta. The laborious task of keeping the Maltese quiet in Malta, through difficulties which your Majesty will perfectly understand, has been principally brought about by the goodness of her Majesty, the Queen of Naples, who at one moment of distress sent 7000*l.*, belonging absolutely to herself and children, by the exertion of Lady Hamilton, the wife of Sir William Hamilton, my gracious Sovereign's minister to the court of the Two Sicilies, whom your Majesty knows personally, and by the bravery and conciliating manners of Captain Ball. If your Majesty honours these two persons with the decoration of the Order, I can answer, none ever more deserved the Cross, and it will be grateful to the feelings of your Majesty's most faithful and devoted servant,' &c.

435. A. L. S. from Mr. Compton to Lady Hamilton. Dated Leghorn, November 1st, 1799. 4½ pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'Your Ladyship's kindness to my dear M<sup>rs</sup> Compton & myself on your return to the Bay of Naples, remains so strongly impressed upon us that we have anxiously wished for the honor of a few lines from Palermo to just acquaint us with your, S<sup>r</sup> W<sup>m</sup>'s, L<sup>d</sup> Nelson's health, & how matters were going on—that is, whether there was any probability of our having the pleasure of soon seeing you all with their S. M. & Royal Family at Naples. Tho' we are removed hither, we still retain the same friendly sentiments, & wish to know how you all do. A gay life we know you have all led, but we hope it has agreed with your Ladyship's & their healths. We heard some time ago that L<sup>d</sup> Nelson had left you to command the fleet off Minorca, we hope he was in a better state of health than when here, we beg your Ladyship when you write to his Lord<sup>sh</sup> will present our best respects & most friendly remembrances to the Hero of the Nile. We greatly regretted to hear that Buonaparte & his Etat Major, 3 Generals, had escaped from Egypt in consequence assuredly of pressing orders from the Directory to *abandon* that army to command one to re-establish their affairs in Italy. I hope & believe he will find that impossible, opinions being much changed, & people's eyes open'd since his departure. He is at Marseilles, & I think his political abilities, his skill in corrupting Generals, &c., are to be more dreaded than even his military talents & abilities. It is a current report that the French have got 4 s<sup>ps</sup> of the line & 5 frigates well equipped, & sailed from Toulon with the resolution to relieve Malta.

'We hope, dear L<sup>y</sup> H., that you are not without some British ships for your protection in Sicily. All here is quite orderly & peaceable, we have fortunately met with good apartments, rather too few but the best in town, & are already well settled, having freighted an entire Polac & brought everything with us—fine provisions, but dearer than Naples, the weather is as warm, & therefore, being a place not subject to fogs as Florence & the climate warmer, I have taken the apartments for a year, but we shall go occasionally to Florence, tho' I still hope



to get to England in the spring. If we can be any way useful to your Lady<sup>sp</sup> or Sir W<sup>m</sup> we beg you will command us in all in our power.

'I have done myself the honor to write to Sir W<sup>m</sup>, and most earnestly entreat your Ladyship's co-operation & good offices with his. I am sure your compassionate heart will feel pleasure in such charitable acts. If Giuseppe Castalio of Ischia, the Cap<sup>t</sup> of my Polac, the Madona addolorata ed anime del Purgatorio, & his father a very experienced one, had not been able mariners, we might have been food for the fish, and his courage in firing our cannon and our putting on a good countenance when attacked saved us from a trip to Tunis, at least greatly contributed to save us. The unfortunate Cap<sup>tn</sup> whose Polac has been taken being related to my brave Cap<sup>tn</sup> will I hope, together with the clear justice & right of his, obtain him your Ladyship's with Sir W<sup>m</sup>'s aid & recommendation to their S. S. M<sup>y</sup>'s government to recover his ship.

'We beg your Ladyship will present our best compliments & regards to your good worthy mother and remember us both also kindly to M<sup>rs</sup> Graffer, &c.

'P. S. The whole Marchetti family every day bless your Ladyship's goodness, and will ever retain the most grateful sense of your Ladyship's protection, which they wish for an opportunity to acknowledge by any possible service or means, and beg their best respects & humble thanks may be accepted by y<sup>r</sup> Lady<sup>sp</sup>, Sir W<sup>m</sup>, & Lord Nelson, their kind protectors, and their most loyal, eternal attachment to their gracious Sovereigns they shall be happy to testify. I am not without hopes that the sequestration too will be shortly taken off & a total reinstatement take place.

'With your L<sup>y</sup>'s tender heart pray remember the terribly distress state of poor M<sup>rs</sup> Palombi's family almost starving.

'P. S. Permit me to add that as you & Sir W<sup>m</sup> may not perhaps go to England by sea this winter, we hope for the pleasure of entertaining you here in the spring, by which time perhaps, all Italy being cleared of the French, you may be able to travel by land, by making only the short sea passage from Palermo to Leghorn. We shall rejoice in the pleasure of seeing your Lady<sup>sp</sup> & S<sup>r</sup> William; Naples was nothing without you two whose house made all alive.'

436. A. L. S. 'M.' from Lord Minto to the same. Dated Vienna, November 2nd, 1799. 5 $\frac{3}{4}$  pages 4to., with Seal. [H.]

'I must snatch one word for you to-day as I feel rather bolder after having broken the ice by the last messenger to Sir W. It is, nevertheless, a real consolation that the English character has lost nothing of its lustre by this honourable tho' unsuccessful service, & that the expedition appears to have failed from causes which the uniform bravery & even the constant victories of the troops could not prevent. We have not lost an action since our landing, & all but the 19<sup>th</sup> Sep<sup>t</sup> were signal victories. Let me talk, however, of pleasanter things. Does our Q. condescend to remember a *true* servant after three years' absence & silence? I certainly never plaid the fool so much in my life as in these eight days, & I am no wiser yet.

'But you & she are, I believe, both accusom<sup>d</sup> to make fools of wiser men. You are fit to make Cymons of Solomons & Solomons of Cymons.

'Pray tell me, my dear L<sup>y</sup> H., if you may, whether there is the least chance of her coming here.

'If she does you will come too. What a jubilee for somebody! I have heard whispers of such an intention. I know not what to wish, not being sure what is best for her to whom I wish everything that is good, but I have a great confidence in her own judgment. I remember a time when I did not wish it, & when it was talked of. Will things be more secure in her absence now? that seems to be the question. It is sure that if all was safe at home her presence here could not fail of doing good. I am persuaded the Empress loves her.

'How is it indeed possible that her daughter should not? I cannot tell you the pleasure I feel in the Empress's company. I always get a word or two about the Q., & the Empress seems so truly interested & touch'd when she speaks of her that I am touch'd also without daring to shew it. Independent of this snug fellow-feeling which I must keep to myself, her own manners are particularly

captivating, & I am always glad of a presentation, which is the only opportunity I have of seeing her & indulging my affection for the mother in the company of the daughter. I have scraped an acquaintance with the Dutchess Giovanni for the same reason. I sat & heard her talk of the Q. the other day for two hours without interrupting her or letting her imagine how much I was enjoying it all the time. God only knows if I ever can have the happiness of rendering her any service, but if I never loved her before I should now that she has suffered so cruelly. When shall I hear of your return to Naples? Nothing seems done till that is accomplish<sup>d</sup>.

'L'Abbe Gian Santi is as frank & cordial with me as possible, but I cannot tell even him how true a friend I am. If it were possible to let the Q<sup>'s</sup> confidential friends know that I may be entirely trusted, it might by possibility lead to good, & the confidence could at least never be abused. I wonder whether I shall ever kiss her hand; I lost my opportunity once, & that you know is seldom recovered with a lady. I hope by this time you think me sufficiently foolish still, especially for an old fat fool, for I am both more than ever, notwithstanding which I continue in love with my wife, & with Sir William's wife, & consumedly, as Scrub\* says, with our nameless friend & mistress, besides half a dozen small passions here at Vienna, for some of us are beautiful & many most amiable & agreeable. I wish you would come & see them with your Queen, & make them all hide their diminish<sup>d</sup> heads. L<sup>y</sup> Minto† is, I hope, on this side of the water by this time. I expect them all here in the course of this month. I must tell you that Anna Maria‡ has not been without a ring which you gave her an hour since she left Naples; she is a famous monkey & I hope will be pretty, but as yet she is a shrimp. God bless you, my dearest L<sup>y</sup> Hamilton, lay me at the proper feet & believe,' &c.

'P. S. You may perhaps have heard that Col<sup>l</sup> Drinkwater§ married Miss Congalton last summer & has moreover got her with child. This match made us all extremely happy as well as the parties concerned. Hardman has been threatening marriage some time with a relation of the Irish Speaker's, but is still a batchelor. The Freemantles|| are a most happy couple & have been giving his Majesty subjects ever since they began in a corner of my cabin on board the *Inconstant*. Pray tell me how poor Clarke has fared in all the miseries of Naples. My kindest love to Sir William, for I believe I have only sent him a stiff, dispatchy sort of letter; but, although I am flirting all this time with you & making true love to somebody else, I am in a great hurry, being in the midst of a messenger to London. Your friend *Small* is succeeding extremely in London; he is a great favourite of the P. of Wales, & indeed of the publick.'

437. A. L. S. from Lord Nelson to 'Captain Ball, Chief of the Island of Malta.' Dated Palermo, November 24th, 1799. 1 page folio. [H.]

'I love, honor, and respect you, and no persons ever have, nor could they if

\* A character in Farquhar's *Beaux' Stratagem*, who remarks in Scene iii. Act 3, 'You must know that I am consumedly in love.'

† Earl Minto married, in 1777, Anne Maria, eldest daughter of Sir George Amyand. She died in 1829.

‡ Lord Minto's eldest daughter. She married, in 1832, Lieutenant-General Sir Rufane-Shawe-Donkin, and died in 1855.

§ John Drinkwater, afterwards Bethune, 1762-1844, author of the *History of the Siege of Gibraltar*. He had acted as Deputy Judge Advocate for Corsica under the Vice-Royalty of Lord Minto, and was at the battle of St. Vincent. He retired on half pay, and afterwards filled some small offices, until in 1811 he was appointed Controller of Army Accounts and filled the post until its abolishment in 1835. At his death he is said to have been the sole survivor of the siege of Gibraltar. He married Eleanor Congleton, niece of Lord Minto, and assumed the name of Bethune after the death of his wife's brother, who had inherited that name and property. By his wife, who died in 1848, he had three sons and four daughters.

|| Admiral Sir Thomas Francis Fremantle, 1765-1819, entered the navy at the age of 12, became a Captain in 1793, and soon after was put in command of the *Inconstant*. He was for some time under Nelson, and distinguished himself particularly at the evacuation of Leghorn. He took part in the battles of Copenhagen and Trafalgar, was promoted to be Admiral in 1810, commanded in the Adriatic from 1812-1814, and was appointed Commander-in-Chief in the Mediterranean in 1818. He married Miss Elizabeth Wynne, by whom he had nine children.



they were so disposed, lessen you in my esteem, both as a public officer and a private man. Therefore never let such a thought come into your head, which was never more wanted to be clear from embroils than at this moment. I trust the Marq<sup>s</sup> will stay till the Russians arrive, or that he is relieved by Troubridge, who I expect every moment, and from the delay I think the troops may come with him. The *Foudroyant* is in momentary readiness to go to Messina to fetch Col<sup>l</sup> Graham. But, my dear friend, your holding your part so long as you have is matter of the greatest credit to you; but, alas! I am neither able to do justice to my friends by telling a good story like Sir S. S., nor are we so near home as Holland. If you are forced to ever quit the island it cannot lessen your exertion or abilities; and do not let such an event, should it unfortunately happen, depress your spirits for a moment. And believe me,' &c.

438. A. L. S. (with initials) from W. Beckford to Sir W. Hamilton. Dated Fonthill, December 23rd, 1799. 3 pages 4to., with Superscription and Seal. [H.]

'Provided, my dear Sir William, that a great gulph is no longer between us, and that I come to you or you to me, I shall be contented, for be assured it is quite impossible for me to express how eagerly I long to see you and the tutelary Divinity of the Two Sicilies once more.

'Tell your lovely Emma that I am enchanted with her remembrance, and I feel all the force and kindness of the little line she wrote at the bottom of your last very affectionate letter of the 9<sup>th</sup> Oct<sup>r</sup>, which I only received a day or two ago.

'By this time perhaps a letter from me very strongly recommending Huber\* of Geneva to your protection may have reached you. By this same epistle you will also learn my extreme eagerness to pass some time with you—if at Fonthill so much the better; but when I wrote last I dared not hope for this (to me) greatest of satisfactions. I therefore indulged some expectation of being able to reach you in Italy.

'Should circumstances so fall out as to oblige you to remain a little longer with their Sicilian Majesties (who must feel wretched at the thoughts of your leaving them) let me know, and I will set forth in spite of winds, waves, and war, rats, and robbers, and I wait your answer with impatience, and remain with,' &c.

'The abbey will astonish you; the weather is sorrowful, dull, and bitter cold. What a climate! How will you be able to bear it? I am warming myself by the Altieri Claudes which have found their way to Fonthill, and being magnificently framed, well-placed, and tenderly washed by Tresham, appear in the utmost glory and perfection. I who have bowels for works of art know how to feel the sad loss you experienced by the wreck of the *Colossus*.'

439. A. L. S. from Lady Nelson to Lord Nelson. Dated 54 St. James's Street, December 26th (1799). 3½ pages 4to., with Superscription and Seal. [H.]

'Cap<sup>t</sup> Hardy has made us all happy by the flattering accounts he gives us of your health. I mentioned your letters were written quite out of spirits; he assures me *that* is owing to the tiresome people you have to deal with. It is impossible to tell you how much pleasure the arrival of Cap<sup>t</sup> Hardy has given to *all* our acquaintance. When I enquired after poor George Bolton Cap<sup>t</sup> H. did not seem to know anything of him, *Susanna*† was surprised, the conversation dropped, and Maurice‡ informed me the next morning that the little boy died on his passage from Gibraltar to Minorca; I own at first I was afraid he had fell overboard. M<sup>rs</sup> Bolton and Kitty have been absent from home some weeks,

\* François Huber, 1750–1830, a Swiss naturalist, author of some works on natural history, the best known being a treatise on bees. He became blind, and was nursed by a devoted wife.

† Susannah, M<sup>rs</sup> Bolton, was Nelson's eldest sister. She married, in 1780, Thomas Bolton, Esq., of Wells, Norfolk, and died in 1813. 'Poor George' was her second son, who had just died at sea at the age of twelve. 'Kitty' was her second daughter; she married, in 1803, Cap<sup>t</sup> Sir William Bolton, R.N., and died in 1857.

‡ Maurice Nelson, 1753–1801, one of Nelson's elder brothers, a clerk in the Navy Office.

which frets our good father; y<sup>r</sup> sister assured us M<sup>r</sup> Bolton was *quite easy* & happy in his *circumstances*. I repeat all these things as I find one half of my letters never reach you. Everything you desired to be sent you will receive by the first frigate. Cap<sup>t</sup> Hardy told me you would be gratified if I sent Lady Hamilton anything, therefore I shall send her ladyship a cap and kerchief *such* as are worn this *cold weather*. I have ordered a suit of cloths for her Majesty's birthday. I am frightened to tell you the expense of your new chariot, nothing fine about it, only fashionable, £352, harness, &c., for one pair of horses. C<sup>ol</sup> Suckling\* has called several times, and seems highly gratified by my civility. Good Cap<sup>t</sup> Locker desires I would give his love to you, in short, I was to say everything that was kind and affectionate for him, and at ye same time I was to tell you he is grown quite old; one of his hands are stiff, which prevents him from writing. Lord Hood is still at Bath; I must write to him. I have seen Cap<sup>t</sup> Hardy, for he is wonderfully anxious for your coming home. The Parkers† are in town, Lady P. was kind and attentive to me. Unfortunately, Sir Peter in going upstairs with a candlestick in his hand fell backwards, very much bruised, and one of his legs cut in several places; no danger is apprehended from the fall, but altho' this accident happened upwards of a fortnight, he is not out of his room. Adm<sup>l</sup> Pole‡ looks well, desires to be kindly remembered to you. I am clothed in two suits of flannel, and I hope I shall be the better for it; my health is much mended within this month. And A<sup>d</sup> Pringle desires me to tell you he longs to see you; he has been very ill with a complaint in his head; he is better, and they give him hopes of getting quite well; he has bought a house and land on the borders of England, 7 miles from a town, which he finds very inconvenient. I am now going to take this letter to M<sup>r</sup> A. Stanhope, who sends all your letters, for I cannot bear the idea of your not receiving them when truly I write once a week. God bless my dearest husband. Our father's blessing attend you.'

440. Copy of Letter from Lord Nelson to Sir W. Hamilton. Dated Palermo, January 10th, 1800. 1½ pages folio. § [H.]

'Your Excellency having had the goodness to communicate to me a dispatch from General Acton, together with several letters from Girgenti, giving an account that a violence had been committed in that port by the seizing and carrying off to Malta two vessels loaded with corn, I beg leave to express to your Excellency my real concern that even the appearance of the slightest disrespect should be offered by any officers under my command to the flag of his Sicilian Majesty; and I must request your Excellency to state fully to General Acton that the act ought not to be considered as any intended disrespect to his Sicilian Majesty, but as an act of the most absolute and imperious necessity, either that the Island of Malta should have been delivered up to the French, or that the King's orders should be anticipated for these vessels carrying their cargoes of corn to Malta.

'I trust that the Government of this country will never again force any of our Royal Master's servants to so unpleasant an alternative. I have the honour to be,' &c.

441. A. L. S. from Captain Troubridge to Lady Hamilton. Dated January 14th, 1800. 4 pages folio. [P.]

'I am duly favoured with your Ladyship's letter of the 8th inst., & feel most

\* Colonel Suckling was the illegitimate son of Nelson's maternal uncle, M<sup>r</sup> William Suckling.

† Admiral Sir Peter Parker, 1723-1811, son of Rear-Admiral Christopher Parker. He served in the West Indies, under Admiral Keppel off Belleisle, in America, and on the Jamaica station, where he and his wife, who had been a Miss Nugent, made Nelson's acquaintance, and were very kind to him. Sir Peter was promoted to be Rear-Admiral in 1777.

‡ Admiral Sir Charles Morice Pole, 1757-1830. He entered the navy in 1772, took post rank in 1779, was made a Rear-Admiral in 1793, Vice-Admiral in 1801, in which year he was made a Baronet for his services off Cadiz. He was Lord of the Admiralty in 1806, and died Admiral of the White.

§ The letter is endorsed by Sir William: 'Copy of Nelson's letter to me on my having communicated General Acton's complaint of the violence committed at Girgenti. The original I sent to General Acton.'



completely happy at your promise to play no more. Be assur'd I have not written to you from any impertinent interference, but from a wish to warn you of the ideas that were going about, which you could not hear off, as no person can be indifferent to the construction put on things which may appear to your Ladyship innocent, and I make no doubt, done with the best intention—still your enemies will, and do give things a different colouring.

'I will not trust to paper the business of the singer, the ill-natured turn it may get induced me to put your Ladyship on your guard. I think it has gone to Pisa, and from thence to London. You may not know that you have many enemies, I therefore risk your displeasure by telling you. I am much gratified you have taken it as I *meant it—purely good*. You tell me I must write you all my wants. The Queen is the only person who *pushes things; you must excuse me*, I trust *nothing there, nor do I, or ever shall ask from the Court of Naples* any thing but for their service, and the *just demands I have on them*. I feel their ill-treatment and deep intrigues too much ever to *forget or forgive* them. I feel so conscious I did *not deserve it from them or their Ministers*, nor can I ever thank them for the corn. Trabier,\* when he heard we had taken the *strong but necessary measures* to oblige them to comply with the treaty, writes to say, *if they refuse to go, oblige them*. Does the *worthless traitor* think he can deceive me by his *hackneyed villainy*; no, *be assured not*, I keep a watchful eye on them all—they do not carry on their intrigues, even with the assistance of Mr. Tough,† *unnoticed*. Lucky for the two miscreants they got notice to be off without coming here. Certainly the Court has no right to account to me for what they do—all I ask is, *not to practice their intrigues on me while I am serving them well*, with a risk of half ruining myself by the sums I have sent different ways to purchase corn, which I am not, or will not benefit by, tho' I take the risk of the sea & the enemy. I believe their Sicilian Majestys have never experienced as much from their *own subjects*. I even turn'd to their Majestys' use all I got at the islands, which certainly was the property of the captors; you may tell them I paid the advice boats which used to go daily to Palermo, Salerno, &c. &c., and laid out £500 out of my pocket from the first of my going to the islands to my leaving Naples for Cività Vecchia, not counting the expense of wines, &c., while I commanded at St. Elmo, Capua, &c. The whole time I have been employed in their cause I kept people in pay to procure information, & rewarded many I thought deserved it agreeably to the Queen's directions: but *they never offer'd to repay*. I must also tell you that I was chequed on the *Culloden's* books while on shore, and shall lose my pay for that time. Had I been serving my own Sovereign I should have had immense allowances—I had nothing. I even paid from my private purse *the feed of all the horses, a public table, wood, cart-hire, spys, & a thousand other things* which are too tedious to relate. This will shew your Ladyship that I ever was a great economist, or the sum would have been considerably greater. Finally, I should have been a very rich man if I had served *GEORGE III. instead of the King of Naples*. I state these things, among the many, to shew you I am not *sore* without cause. I pray your Ladyship to believe me, your,' &c.

'With all I have stated I shall continue to serve them, & use the same exertion I have always done in their cause. I never suffer party to interfere with service. I beg my compliments to Sir William. The new Admiral,‡ I suppose, will send us home—the new hands will *serve* them better, as they will soon be all from the *north*, full of *liberality and generosity*, as all *Scotts* are with some exceptions.'

442. A. L. (incomplete) from Lady Nelson to Lord Nelson. Dated St. James's, January 13th (1800). 4 pages 4to. [H.]

'I have had the happiness of seeing Lieu<sup>t</sup> Leahey, he assures me you are

\* Prince di Trabia, a Neapolitan Minister.

† Mr. James Tough was English Consul at Palermo.

‡ This was George Keith Elphinstone, Lord Keith, 1746–1823, a well-known naval commander. He entered the navy in 1762, served in India, China, and the Mediterranean, and was made a Post Captain in 1775. He distinguished himself on many occasions, and for his services at the Cape was created a Baron in 1797. In 1801 he became Admiral of the Blue, and commanded against the French on the coast of Egypt. He married Hester Maria, eldest daughter of Johnson's Mrs. Thrale.

well, which I hope is true ; seeing Cap<sup>t</sup> Hardy and the Lieu<sup>t</sup> has put me in spirits and makes me well, in spite of the rheumatism. Maurice has just left us, he tells [us] Cap<sup>t</sup> Boyl<sup>\*</sup> has received all your boxes. I hope Lady Hamilton will like her cap, all I can say it's the whim of the moment. Sir William, I find, has determined to leave Sicily in the spring. The Hon<sup>ble</sup> M<sup>r</sup> Padget,<sup>†</sup> I hear, is going to Naples by land ; he told M<sup>rs</sup> Coleman his stay abroad was very uncertain, 6 months or 6 years. His plate is handsome ; Rundall shewed me a few things, and was given to under[stand] the order might be larger. Admiral Waldegrave<sup>‡</sup> called to hear if you were expected home. I told him what the young men told me 'that you were anxious to return home ;' he thought you ought, rest would be of service. Our good father came up in hopes of hearing the chat of the day ; however, the A<sup>d<sup>m</sup></sup> had an answer to his question and took his leave ; he wishes to be continued on the Newfoundland Station, but Maurice thinks he won't have it. Lord St. Vincent keeps himself very snug indeed, for no one sees him ; some say he is ill (Lord Bridport,<sup>§</sup> I hear from his family, has no thought of giving up his command) ; he promised to give a dinner on the 14th of Febr<sup>y</sup>, I hope he will. Good Cap<sup>t</sup> Locker<sup>||</sup> wishes his hand would let him write to you ; he looks well, but his memory is very so-so, which makes our good father *rather* impatient, for he cannot bear to hear the same thing twice ; I wish I could say his body was as strong as his intellectual powers. I have almost made him promise to consult some physician about that weakness he has had some years, which rather increases. I have had a letter from M<sup>rs</sup> Nelson to say *she had rather* for her daughter to be with me than anybody, therefore she requested I would receive her, and when school opened I would take her there. The rector she thought would go to London with his children, therefore they will all be in London in a few days. I have paid for your new carriage £342. You will be astonished to find how very expensive every[thing] is grown since you left England, and I sometimes flatter myself it will not be many months before you are convinced of it in person. Our father sometimes seems to have an inclination to go to Bath late in the spring. M<sup>r</sup> Matcham<sup>¶</sup> is recovered from his late alarming indisposition, he had lost the use of all his limbs, owing to a cold which was attended by a billious fever. M<sup>rs</sup> M. wrote to her father they had an offer to sell Shepherd Spring, but they would not do it if they thought you would wish to purchase it ; £5000 was the sum offer'd. M<sup>r</sup> Nelson desired I would answer the letter for him, which I did, saying it was impossible for me to say much on the subject, but that from your letters I had no idea of your wishing to make any new purchases, and that M<sup>r</sup> Nelson thought that if they could sell it to advantage it would save them a great deal of trouble hereafter. M<sup>r</sup> Matcham is determined whenever we have peace to go to France, and if there is anything like an established government numbers will do the same. Lord Keith is gone to Minorca ; we are anxious to hear if he intends going to Sicily ; some say he will . . .'

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\* Charles Boyles, son of a collector of customs at Wells in Norfolk, appointed to the *Raisonnable* at the same time as Nelson. He obtained post rank in 1790, and died a Vice-Admiral of the Blue in 1816.

† Afterwards Sir Arthur Paget, 1771-1840, younger brother of the 1st Marquis of Anglesey, who was about to replace Sir W. Hamilton as Envoy to Naples.

‡ Admiral Sir William Waldegrave, afterwards 1st Baron Radstock, 1753-1825. He was the second son of John, 3rd Earl Waldegrave, and distinguished himself particularly in the victory obtained over the Spanish fleet off Cape Lagos in 1797. He was created a Baron in 1800.

§ Alexander Hood, 1st Viscount Bridport, 1727-1814, a great naval commander, younger brother of Admiral Sir Samuel Hood. He distinguished himself at the siege of Gibraltar in 1782 ; off La Hogue in 1794, when he was created Baron Bridport ; off Lorient in 1795, and in the mutiny at the Nore in 1797. He succeeded Lord Howe as Vice-Admiral of Great Britain, and in 1800 was created a Viscount.

|| Captain William Locker, 1730-1800, one of Nelson's dearest friends, afterwards Lieutenant-Governor of Greenwich Hospital.

¶ Mr. George Matcham, 1754-1833, married in 1787 Catherine Nelson, 1767-1842, Nelson's youngest sister.



443. A. L. (in the third person) from Don Camillo di Fortuna to Lord Nelson. No date (1800). 1 page 4to.

Praying Nelson's interference in his favour that he may be set at liberty, he having been falsely accused by secret enemies, his house sacked, and himself thrown into prison, where he is lying ill and in danger of death. He expresses his feelings of loyalty towards the King of Naples, and declares that no evidence has been found against him.

444. A. L. S. 'W. H.' (mutilated) from Sir W. Hamilton to Charles Greville. Dated Palermo, January 25th, 1800. 7 pages folio, with Superscription and Seal. [H.]

'We have now the post open, but in this very retired part of the world our news is not of a very fresh date when we receive it. The strange events that have taken place lately at Paris makes us naturally expect some great changes, and I am one that shou'd not be surprised if it shou'd end in the restoration of the French Monarchy. Be that as it may, I am determin'd to profit by the King's leave and return home in the spring, and I hope at latest to be in London for the King's birthday. I shou'd prefer returning by sea if a good opportunity shou'd offer, but, that failing, mean to go to Naples & post it through the Tirole. I was really so worn down last year with anxiety of mind, change of climate, having suffered here extreme damp & cold in the winter, & violent heats in the summer, which gave me a constant diarrhea, that I doubted really if I shou'd get home alive; but I am now in better health than I have been for some years, and pick up a little flesh. Riding and asses' milk, which I prescribed to myself, has done me more good than anything else, & occasionally a little bark & rhubarb. [Lord Nelson continues to live with us, so that my house is always full of marine officers, and altho' I must own that] I am a little tired of keeping open house so long as I have [& which I really cou'd not do without Emma's doing the honours so well as she does],\* yet I must own that I have made some very valuable acquaintances among the officers of the fleet, in all of which (and I speak of almost every officer in the Mediterranean service) I have found more or less real merit. I have been induced, as you know, to stay at my post because my conscience wou'd not permit me to leave it. Without me Lord Nelson wou'd not stay here, and without Lord Nelson their Sicilian Majesties wou'd think themselves undone. However, his Lord<sup>p</sup> having fairly reinstated them on their throne of Naples, it is their fault if they don't keep fast there; all we cou'd do has been done, & all the efforts that I see are making to keep me on here by the Court will not surely prevail, but home I go in the spring. I really now can serve them better by being in England than by staying here. The Queen is really so fond of Emma that the parting will be a serious business. However, I say and mean not to resign my office—I go home to settle my affairs, which God knows are in much confusion, and to get a little relaxation. I do not give up my house at Naples; but, as I am 69 years old, it is nonsense to take any decided resolution about returning here or not. Shou'd England agree with me I think I may remain, but otherwise I can do no better than bask out the remainder of my days in the Naples' sun, & in that case I wou'd bring out an active Secretary to write for me, for I cannot labour as I have hitherto without any assistance. It is certainly very flattering to me that after 37 years' residence at Naples all shou'd appear so very anxious that I shou'd remain with them.

'Whilst the French remain'd at Naples a commissary was lodged in my house, and made use of my furniture, coaches, & horses, saying he wou'd carry nothing away, but at last he went off with three of my carriages. The pictures I had taken care of, or they wou'd have gone instead of being here in good cases. As to my vases that is a sore point, they had better be at Paris than at the bottom of the sea; have you no good news of them? they were excellently

\* The portions in square brackets have been crossed out, but not sufficiently so to prevent their being deciphered.

packed up, & the cases will not easily go to pieces, & the sea water will not hurt the vases. All the cream of my collection were in those eight cases on board the *Colossus*, & I can't bear to look at some remaining cases here in which I know there are only black vases without figures. However, drawings were made of all, & the prints for the 4<sup>th</sup> volume were engraved and are with Tischbein, who I hear is in Germany. He is an honest man, and most excellent in drawing after the antique.

'I write this letter just to open my mind to you, my dear Charles, and out with whatever comes uppermost. I shall not enter on politicks further than to say that the last courier from Petersburg has raised the spirits of this Court, & we hope the Emperor will return to the coalition. It is provoking that the Russian troops were just going from Messina to Malta when they were ordered home; their appearance only at Malta would probably have induced Vaubois to give up Valetta, where they certainly are in the greatest distress for provisions. Lord Nelson is gone a cruise in the *Foudroyant* without saying where; I make no doubt but that his L<sup>p</sup> will go to Malta before he returns here. Lord Keith wrote to me from Minorca lately & saying that he should probably soon see L<sup>d</sup> Nelson & me at Palermo. . . .

'Adieu, my dear Charles. I will write when I have fixed my motions, & I wish you would write me some little account of my affairs. Y<sup>rs</sup>, &c.

445. Copy of a letter (in Italian) from the Vizir's Headquarters at the reconquered port of El-Aarish on the borders of the desert. Dated El-Aarish, January 28th, 1800. I page folio.\* [H.]

Ever since the conquest of El-Aarish, and during twenty days, daily conferences have taken place between the Sublime Porte, General Desaix, and Commodore Smith, and have resulted in an arrangement between the belligerents as follows: The French will retreat to Alexandria with the honours of war, artillery, arms & ammunition, and such of their supplies as they might still have, and at the end of a month will leave for France—but this is not all. The Porte undertakes to pay to the French any expenditure they have made in building fortresses, etc., in Egypt. In the following week the Grand Vizir will resume his journey to Grand Cairo with most of his troops.

446. L. S. from Paolo Rinaldo to Lord Nelson. Dated Tunis, February 2nd, 1800. 2 pages folio, with Superscription. [P.]

Showing that he has been held in slavery in Tunis for eleven months, having been taken in March, 1799, off Malta in a Neapolitan brig, Captain Cesare, bearing Nelson's passport for transporting provisions to Malta, consigned to General Ball, in which vessel the writer embarked as English interpreter, having served on board various English ships of war for seven years, part of the time in the West Indies and America. He therefore prays His Excellency that he may be liberated from slavery, having been taken while under the protection of His Excellency's passport. Not having received any assistance whatever from the English Consul at Tunis during the eleven months he has been a prisoner, he prays that at least some assistance may be afforded him from the English Consulate to support him whilst he remains in slavery.

447. A. L. from Prince di Fitalia to Lord Nelson. No date (early in February, 1800).  $\frac{1}{2}$  page 4to. [P.]

Prince Fitalia presents his compliments to His Excellency the Duke of Bronte, and begs the favour of his company in his box at the Theatre Royal of S<sup>t</sup> Cecilia, on the evening of the 9th February, and to supper in celebration of the public fête—assured of his thanks should he accept it.

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\* Endorsed by Sir William Hamilton: 'Spencer Smith, Constantinople, Feb. 18<sup>th</sup>, 1800.'



448. A. L. S. from Lord Nelson to Sir W. Hamilton. Dated February 3rd, 1800. 1½ pages 4to. [H.]

'As I must go on board my Commander-in-Chief I send Allen on shore to enquire how you all are. We are ten days from Leghorn, where they have no news so late from England as that brought by the *Constance* frigate. L<sup>d</sup> Minto had wrote M<sup>r</sup> Wyndham some time back that he was just setting off for Prague, and that all matters were likely to be settled between the two Emperors. No posts had arrived at Leghorn from any part of the world owing to the extreme bad weather. I dare say Lord Keith will come on shore directly, and I have no doubt but you will find him all you wish, and much more able to serve their Sicilian Majestys than I have been. If L<sup>d</sup> K. does not come on shore immediately, I shall. Till then, adieu ; and believe me,' &c.

449. A. L. S. from Sir W. Hamilton to the Chevalier Italinski.\* Dated Palermo, February 10th, 1800. 1 page 4to., with Superscription and Seal. [H.]

'Count Pouschin† has sent a packet from your Court for Usacoff to Lord Keith, who sends a frigate to Corfu on purpose to-morrow to carry that dispatch and his dispatches. If you have any letters for Corfu, send them to me to-night or by 8 o'clock to-morrow morning, & they will go safe and speedily. Ever, my dear Sir,' &c.

450. A. L. S. from Lord Nelson to Sir W. Hamilton, Dated February 12th (1800). 1 page 4to. [H.]

'Could Lord K. suppose that I did not wish to write to your house even if I had not been absent half an hour—he must have been a beast to have thought so—but, as I sent on board the *Queen Charlotte* to say that if the brig was going to Palermo I wanted to write, it was neglectful not to wait for my letter, or to send the Commander to me. I am far from well, and have half promised Jefferson‡ to take an emetic this even<sup>g</sup>. May God bless you and my dear Lady, and believe me,' &c.

'P.S. Tyson§ sends your pens. We all think of those we have left.'

451. A. L. S. from the same to the same. No date (February, 1800). 1 page 4to. [H.]

'I just write you a line to say Nelson knows nothing, nor should I have known the Ad<sup>l</sup> was going to send to Palermo if I had not sent to know. I feel all, and notwithstanding my desire to be as humble as the lowest midshipman, perhaps, I cannot submit to be much lower, I am used to have attention paid me from his superiors,' &c.

452. A. L. S. from the same to Lady Hamilton. Dated February 13th, 1800. 2 pages 4to. [P.]

'I do not send you any news or opinions, as this letter goes by post and may be opened, and as I wrote to you and Sir William yesterday, nothing particular has occurred. We are now off Messina with a fresh breeze and fair. Mr. Roche has had the goodness to come on board. To say how I miss your house and company would be saying little ; but in truth you and Sir William have so spoiled me that I am not happy anywhere else but with you, nor have I an idea that I ever can be. All my newspapers are purloined at Gibraltar, and I suspect a

\* Russian Minister at the Court of Naples for whom Nelson had much regard.

† Minister at War for the Navy and Army in Italy, in which capacity he was succeeded by Italinsky.

‡ Mr. Michael Jefferson was a naval surgeon.

§ Captain John Tyson was Nelson's Secretary in the *Vanguard* and *Foudroyant*, and was afterwards Clerk of the Survey in Woolwich Dockyard. He died in 1814.

gentleman there has sent them to Lord Keith, for they are all stars. I see in Lord Grenville's note to Paris he concludes with saying that the best mode he can recommend for France to have a solid peace is to replace its ancient princes on the throne. May the Heavens bless you and make you ever be satisfied that I am,' &c.

'You will make my kindest regards to Sir William and to all the house, also duty to the Queen.'

453. A. L. S. from John Thomas Roche to Lady Hamilton. Dated Messina, February 14th, 1800. 2 pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'Yesterday passed by on his way to Malta the hero of the Nile, Lord Nelson. I went on board to know if he had any commands, and his Lordship gave me the enclosed letter for your Ladyship, & at the same time begged I would myself put it in the post, so I promised; but, not thinking the post neither so safe nor expeditious as a private hand, I made diligent enquiries for some one going to Palermo, & at last found the bearer, who promised to deliver it into your hands; thus far I trust I have fulfilled the promise I made to that great and good man, whom I thought I could never see enough of.

'I came here about three months agoe for the benefit of my health, & proposed to return to Naples, but finding the air agree with me I mean to stay here. I left my furniture and things in Naples, also a woman who has for a long time taken care of & managed the affairs of my house; this woman is a German of the name of Madam Duri. It is above a month since she applied to the Giunto for a passport to come here, but these upright judges, under one pretence or other, refused her one. As I have more than once experienced your Ladyship's condescension & goodness towards me, may I presume on this occasion to solicit one more, which is to give me a letter to Prince Casiro, the Viceroy, or some one of the Giunto at Naples, to desire them despatch this woman's passport, & I assure that she will not meddle with politicks. Your Ladyship's according me this favour cannot encrease the greatness of my respect and veneration, but must be considered as an emanation of that divine urbanity & condescension by which you have attached to yourself the admiration and respect of mankind, and of none more than,' &c.

'P.S. Mr Gibbs will forward to me any letter your Ladyship may write. Compt<sup>s</sup> to Mrs. Cadogan.'

454. A. L. S. from Lady Nelson to Lord Nelson. Dated St. James's Street, February 17th (1800). 3½ pages 4to., with Superscription and Seal. No. 8, since the commencement. [H.]

'My two letters to you last week was written very much out of spirits. Our dear father was extremely ill, I never thought of seeing him again sitting by the fireside. That pleasure I have really had; he is very, very weak; he tells me he thinks he may go on for some time longer. The fabric has had such a shake that it can never recover its former strength. I rejoice to see him free from pain, & I hope he will remain so. *He would not allow any of his children to make him a visit.* I think the Matchams will be here in the spring; they are gone into Hampshire to conclude the business of the sail (*sic*) of Shepherd's Spring. These are the chief articles of family *news*. A sad account of Captain Pearson's\* health, he has had a relapse of the yellow fever, I am truly sorry for it; his leave of absence went out some time back. I have seen Ad<sup>m</sup> Bligh,† his account of that terrible fever is truly frightful; he made many enquiries of you.

\* Captain, afterwards Admiral Richard Harrison Pearson, took post rank in 1798, was made a Rear-Admiral in 1825, and died in 1838.

† Admiral Sir Richard Rodney Bligh, 1737-1821. He entered the navy about 1751, and served under Admiral Byng, and then under Sir George Rodney. He was posted in 1777, became Rear-Admiral in 1794, Vice-Admiral in 1799, and Admiral in 1804. In 1819 he was made a G. C. B.



'Col & Mrs Suckling have left town ; it was not in my power to show them any civilities. Maurice Suckling has taken a farm within a mile of Horace Suckling ; Mr Maurice Nelson told him sailors seldom make good farmers, he said he wd do his best. In consequence of our father's illness I declined going to Mr Walpole's\* last night. By way of persuading me, she mentioned that the Prince of Wales, two of his brothers, and the Stadholder, the Duke of Gloster if he could, and a great many fine people. I believe she will give me up for being too humdrum. Sir Peter and his family are all gone into their new house in Wimpole Street—it seems a large, handsome house. Lady Berry† is expected at Kensington next week. John Berry and his wife are on the eve of embarking for America. The Walpoles are still [in] the country. Mr W. Bolton has been staying at Bath for three weeks ; he called yesterday, I was not at home. Our father *had him up to ask how the four kings went on*: VERY HIGH PLAY, HIGHER then ever. Mr Higgins has written to me on the subject of one of his sons going to sea, a lad 15 years of age. I do not know what to do. Cap<sup>t</sup> Hardy and every body was very uncertain of your coming home, therefore I asked Cap<sup>t</sup> Foley to take him, and he joins the *Elephant* this week. As to public news, the papers gives you a ful and perfect account. Mrs Hamilton is a perfect recluse in Harley Street—neither stirs out, nor admits any inside her house. Susanna has recovered from her illness, we think she must go home, she requires a great deal of exercise, which she cannot have with me. Our d<sup>r</sup> father intends writing to you. God bless you, and believe me,' &c. 'My love to my dear son.'

455. A. L. S. from Lord Nelson to Sir W. Hamilton. Dated 'February 18th (1800), ½ p<sup>t</sup> 5 o'clock.' ½ page 4to., with Superscription and Seal. [H.]

'I have got the *Généreux* and a frigate full of troops and stores for Malta, and am making sail after 2 frigates and a corvette. Ever, my dear Sir William,' &c. 'No bad ball, but unmasked.'

456. Extract from a letter of Lord Nelson's to Lady Hamilton (in the latter's handwriting). Dated '18th' (February, 1800). 1½ pages 4to. [H.]

'I feel anxious to get up with these ships & shall be unhappy not to take them myself, for first my greatest happiness is to serve my gracious King and Country, & I am envious only of glory ; for if it be a sin to covet glory I am the most offending soul alive. *But here I am* in a heavy sea & thick fog—Oh, God ! the wind subsided—but I trust to Providence I shall have them. 18th in the evening, I have got her—*Le Généreux*—thank God ! 12 out of 13, onely the *Guillaume Telle* remaining ; I am after the others. I have not suffered the French Admiral to contaminate the *Foudroyant* by setting his foot in her.'‡

457. A. L. S. from Sir W. Sidney Smith to Sir W. Hamilton. Dated *Tigre*, Cyprus, February 18th, 1800. 2¾ pages folio. [H.]

'Your kind offices and the Duke of Bronté's liberality and goodness of heart has enabled me to gratify my wish to be on the best terms with him. I ever felt most cordial towards him, & by so much as I was grieved at not finding that

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\* The Walpoles and the Sucklings were connected by marriage, as were also the Sucklings and the Nelsons.

† Louisa, Lady Berry, daughter of the Rev. Dr. Foster of Norwich, and wife of Rear-Admiral Sir Edward Berry.

‡ The letter is endorsed by Sir William Hamilton : 'I desired Lady H. to make me a little extract from L<sup>d</sup> Nelson's letter to her, which was a sort of journal. I fear your L<sup>p</sup> will scarcely be able to make out her hasty scrawl ; but Lord Nelson's sentiments, expressed in his own words, doe him so much honor that I trust your L<sup>p</sup> will excuse the liberty I take in having sent this paper for your Lordship's private perusal. "W. H." The 'L<sup>p</sup>' was probably Lord Grenville.

return I hoped for, I am gratified at now being on the best terms possible, so that the service goes on smoothly and pleasantly. His Grace will have communicated the information sent down by the *Cameleon* of the Convention for the evacuation of Egypt being signed on the 24th, & ratified by the Vezir on the 31st. This termination of my labours is by so much the more gratifying as we had not the means of forcing the enemy out of Egypt by arms, & the first approaches to an arrangement by negotiation were not very promising, as you will see by the enclosed paper, which I request of you to communicate to our friend the Duke, having no copies of them made when I made up his packet, but you being so near him makes it the same thing, and I have thus the pleasure of proving my remembrance of you. You see the nature of the intrigue begun by Mustapha Pasha, my stupid automaton at the battle of Aboukir, & cut up by my intercepting the letters sent by sea. I have kept the intriguers from renewing either that intrigue or succeeding in one begun by those who were altogether averse to this best & only practicable mode of settling the business, & have by patience and temper brought it to a happy conclusion. It remains for me only to carry these armed men safely past your shores, which I shall take every care of, & I am not without hopes that the example and the little utility of Malta to them, now that this army is going home, will induce that garrison to surrender, or at least accept similar terms as a great favour. Dear Sir Will<sup>m</sup>, yours, &c.

‘In great haste.’

458. A. L. S. from Lord Nelson to Sir W. Hamilton. Dated off La Valletta, February 20th (1800). 1 page 4to. [H.]

‘Many, many thanks for your kind letter by Cap<sup>t</sup> Morris.\* You will have received my express from Syracuse, and I know what pleasure it will give you to find that Nelson, by leaving his Admiral without signal, for which *I may be broke*, took these French villains. L<sup>d</sup> Keith received my account and myself like a philosopher (but very unlike you), it did not, that I could perceive, cause a pleasing muscle in his face. If this 22 sail of the line, which L<sup>d</sup> Keith has notice of, really arrive in the Med<sup>n</sup> I trust we shall give a better account of them than the last fleet, it cannot be worse. I am very sick and unwell. I have not had the least communication with the shore, therefore have heard nothing from Ball, Graham, or Troubridge. Ever, &c.

‘P. S. Sir E. Berry† begs you will not forget to put his letter in the Post Office.’

459. A. L. S. from Captain Tyson to Lady Hamilton. Dated ‘*Audacious*, on my passage to Syracuse,’ February 21st, 1800. 2½ pages 4to. [P.]

‘Many thanks, my dear Lady Hamilton, for your kind note enclosed in Lord Nelson’s letter. You will, no doubt, be surprised when you see this dated from the *Audacious*, but I have left Lord Nelson. Be not alarmed, my Lady, it is for my benefit, and only for a time, and that great and good man proposed it, and I, of course, acquiesced. I send you herewith many letters from him, and all under cover to General Acton. His Lordship has explained the whole in his letters, therefore it is needless for me to repeat it. However, it may be needful to say that the Captains who were at the capture of the *Généreux* have done me the honour to appoint me the prize agent, which when it was understood by Lord K. there were a number of black looks and orders given respecting the prizes which

\* Captain, afterwards Sir James Nicoll Morris, entered the navy under the care of his father, and was by his side when he fell in the action off Sullivan’s Island. He then served under Admiral Barrington and obtained post rank in 1793. In 1803 he was employed off Genoa, commanded the *Colossus* at Trafalgar, became a Rear-Admiral in 1811, a K.C.B. in 1815, and was promoted to be Vice-Admiral in 1819. He died in 1830.

† Rear-Admiral Sir Edward Berry, 1768-1831. He entered the navy in 1779, served under Nelson in *Agamemnon*, and was posted in 1797. He was taken to Court by Nelson, who, on the king remarking on the loss of his right arm, promptly presented Berry as his right hand. He was knighted in 1798, was made a Baronet in 1806, and attained the rank of Rear-Admiral in 1821.



I did not like ; therefore I went and waited on him, and told him the whole of the circumstances, and that it was necessary for the benefit of the captors that *I should* have the direction of the sales of them, and at the same time I gave his brother and secretary one half of the agency, which brightened all up again, and now I am one of the best fellows in the world with him. I have got orders from him to the officers at Mahon to purchase every thing she has got in, and supply me with store-houses, &c. I almost regret that I had not been born a Scotchman, and had not Lancashire produced a Lady Hamilton, whom I am so proud of calling my countrywoman, I do not know ; but I might hail from the north of the Tweed.

'I have been keeping jubilee as well as you at Palermo on the 18th instant ; while you were masking I was congratulating our good Lord Nelson on his having taken the fourth Admiral this war, and twelve out of the thirteen ships that went to Egypt. In a note I wrote to Captain Martin on the 16th instant, I told him that Lord K. I supposed was come to reap laurels at Malta. Little did I think then that Nelson should snatch them to decorate his own brows with them from the other that *wants them so much*, for Nelson had enough before. I beg you will excuse my hasty scrawl, as it blows hard, and we have just made Cape Passaro, and I hope to-night to get on board the *Généreux* to proceed in her to Mahon. I cannot now give you any particulars of the circumstances attending the capture ; however, you have them, I know, from our good Lord Nelson.

'God bless you all. If I have time I will write to Signora Madre from Syracuse, and I beg you will believe me with the greatest sincerity and truth,' &c.

460. A. L. S. from Lord Nelson to Sir W. Hamilton. Dated February 25th, 1800. 2 pages 4to. [H.]

'Ten thousand thanks for your letter by Cap<sup>t</sup> Compton. My situation is to me very irksome, but how at this mom<sup>t</sup> to get rid of it is a great difficulty. The French ships are here preparing for sea ; the Brest fleet L<sup>d</sup> Keith says may be daily expected, and with all this I am very unwell. I was in hopes I could have come and staid 2 or 3 weeks quiet in your house, with<sup>t</sup> a care or a thought of the service, but for a short time that prospect is vanished. Something must come forth in 2 or 3 weeks, and the first moment which offers with credit to myself I shall assuredly give you my company. Lord Keith will tell you that he is going first to Syracuse, and then to the Gulph of Genoa, but every moment may change his plans, if he has any. I am made truly happy by the event of the Grand Master's favour to our dear and highly meritorious Lady & to Ball, the cross *never before* was so well bestowed. The money came safe to Malta, and the corvette sail'd weeks past. L<sup>d</sup> St V<sup>t</sup> has not, nor can have, any power over the Medit<sup>n</sup> fleet, L<sup>d</sup> Keith is Commander-in-Chief, and I have not been kindly treated. When I can rest a little quietly, I hope I shall be well enough to get through this campaign. When you see me it may be unexpected, perhaps crossing the country from Girgenti, for a visit of rest I am determined to take. Ever, my dear Sir William,' &c.\*

461. Copy of Letter† from the same to the Emperor of Russia. Dated *Foudroyant*, Malta, February 26th, 1800. 1½ pages folio. [P.]

'The gracious manner in which your Imperial Majesty has complied with my request has filled me with the greatest gratitude, and I shall only again presume to say that the Cross of Malta has never yet been worn by two persons who have merited and will adorn it more than Lady Hamilton and Captain Ball. They are equally sensible with me of your Majesty's goodness.

'In the fulness of a grateful heart may I presume to lay at your feet the sword of the French Admiral Perrée, who I had the good fortune to capture in the

\* This letter is addressed at the bottom : ' Rt. Honble. Lord Keith, K.B<sup>h</sup>, ' but is certainly to Sir W. Hamilton.

† The letter is endorsed by Lady Hamilton : ' Copy. Lord Whitworth, our then Minister at St. Petersburg, had the Emperor's orders to write home that I might be permitted to wear the order. I not only received the deputys from Malta, but in a few hours I sent off 3 ships laden with corn, and got £7000 from the Queen, but give 500 ounces of my own to relieve them, Nelson was out with his fleet at that time, looking for the French fleet,'

*Généreux* of 74 guns, together with a large store ship, on the 18th instant, having on board 2000 troops, with provisions and ammunition for the relief of La Villette. This capture will doubtless much facilitate the fall of the place, and enable me to see the flag of the order flying in La Villette, which, that it may soon do, is the fervent prayer, and shall be the utmost exertion of,' &c.

462. A. L. S. from Captain Ball to Lady Hamilton. Dated Malta, February 27th, 1800.  $3\frac{1}{4}$  pages folio. [P.]

'I most sincerely congratulate your Ladyship on the distinguished mark of favour which his Imperial Majesty, the Emperor of Russia, has been pleased to confer upon you in creating you Chanoiness of the Order of St John of Jerusalem. He has been graciously pleased to confer upon me the honour of Commander of the same order, from which I derive a double satisfaction. The first in the honour of being your brother and defender; and secondly from the consideration of its being a token of regard of my invaluable friend and patron, Lord Nelson. This memento will have the same effect upon your Ladyship's mind. With what joy you must have received the news of his Lordship's success in the capture of the French Admiral's ship, the *Généreux*, with a corvette, and the dispersion of the rest of the enemy's squadron bound to Malta, not one of which will ever attempt to make for the destined port. We may truly call him a *heaven-born* Admiral, upon whom fortune smiles wherever he goes. We have been carrying on the blockade of Malta sixteen months, during which time the enemy never attempted to throw in great succours until this month. His Lordship arrived off here the day they were within a few leagues of the island, captured the principal ships and dispersed the rest, so that not one has reached the port. I dined with his Lordship yesterday, who is apparently in good health, but he complains of indisposition and the necessity of repose. I do not think a short stay here will hurt his health, particularly as his ship is at anchor, and his mind not harassed. Troubridge and I are extremely anxious that the French ships (*Le Guillaume Tell* in particular) and the French garrison of La Valetta shall surrender to him. I would not urge it if I were not convinced that it will ultimately add both to his honour and happiness. It will only be a sacrifice of a short time, after which he may retire to enjoy the air and society of his good friends at Palermo. What a gratification it would be to us if you and Sir William could pay us a short visit. We could make up a snug whist party every evening for Sir William, but we should fall very short in our attempts to amuse you, when we consider the multiplicity of engagements and amusements you have every day at Palermo.

'Troubridge is extremely ill of a bilious complaint, which will require time to get the better of. I write to Sir William by this conveyance. I therefore only send my best respects to Miss Knight and Mrs Cadogan. I wish we could bring about a match between the former lady and Captain Gould:\* he has money enough for both, and she abilities. Adieu, my dear Lady and sister. May you live a thousand years; but at all events may you be supremely happy while you live, prays your,' &c.

463. A. L. S. from Lord Nelson to Sir W. Hamilton. Dated February 28th, 1800.  $1\frac{1}{2}$  pages 4to. [H.]

'The *Cameleon* brig arrived this morning from Egypt, and brought the letters from S.S.S. of February 14th, at Cyprus; the result is that after much writing and talking, a convention was signed on the 24th January at El Arash between the Commissioners, on the part of the Grand Vizier, and Gen<sup>l</sup> Kléber,† mediated

\* Sir David Gould, 1757-1847. He received post rank in 1789, served in the Leeward Islands, was at the reduction of Corsica. He was appointed to the *Audacious*, and joined Nelson in 1798 and distinguished himself at the Nile. He assisted at the blockade of Malta, and afterwards went to the West Indies. He was made a Rear-Admiral in 1807 and Vice-Admiral in 1810. In 1815 he was made a K.C.B.

† Jean Baptiste Kléber, 1753-1800, one of the most celebrated of the Republican generals. He first served in the Bavarian army, but in 1792 enlisted under the French flag, and distinguished himself on many occasions and rapidly reached the rank of General. He took Alexandria, com-



and confirmed by Sir S. S. The French are to go off with their arms and be landed in France under the *garantee* of all the allies. I send you S.S.S. last private, but volumes go to Lord Keith. The French are to have as a present 3000 *Bourses*. I know not how much money is contained in one, but the sum must be enormous. The French were to evacuate Cairo March 14th, and to hold Alexandria, Rosetta, & Aboukir till all were embarked; a truce was to take place immediately. I am a little hurried, for the cutter is just returned from Corfou. Uschakoff is ordered to return to the Medit<sup>n</sup>, but he says his ships are unable at this season. The French ships are preparing to come out this night, and I am preparing to fight them the moment their nose is outside the harbour; may God grant me success. I am truly very ill, but ever,' &c.

464. A. L. S. from the same to the same. Dated February 28th, 1800.

1 page 4to. [H.]

'I have letters wrote both to you and Lady Hamilton which will this night or to-morrow morning go off by Girgenti. I therefore only state that the *Cameleon* is this moment arrived from Egypt, and brought me dispatches which I am sending off to Lord Keith, that the Turks and French did on the 24th January sign a convention for the return of the whole French army to Europe with *their arms* in their hands. I consider this event of such importance for you to know that I take the chance of this reaching you before the other. Sir S. S. agrees to the whole. With the kindest regards to Lady Hamilton, believe me,' &c.

465. A. L. S. from Captain Ball to Lady Hamilton. Dated Malta, March 10th, 1800. 1 page folio. [P.]

'Our dear friend, Lord Nelson, has determined to return to Palermo for a short time for the re-establishment of his health. I was very desirous that he should prolong his stay; but, as I perceive he requires repose and the society of his good friends at Palermo, I rejoice at his going, as the great and important services he has rendered to all Europe who are enemies to the French entitle him to every honour and happiness. We shall not meet such another—such rare qualities seldom combine in one person. I never can expect to gain so valuable and true a friend—such good fortune can only happen once in a man's life. His Lordship has been pleased to give me a most flattering proof of your favourable opinion of me, which I shall preserve as an invaluable deposit.

'My very best respects to Sir William Hamilton, I hope for the pleasure of seeing you both before you embark for England. I have the honour to be, with great respect, my dear Madam, your Ladyship's most obliged,' &c.

466 A. L. S. from Richard Bulkeley\* to Lord Nelson. Dated Chaceley, Tewkesbury, March 12th, 1800. 3½ pages 4to. [P.]

'Your very kind letter of the 8th October reached me about six weeks ago; it came by way of Cork. Accept my sincere thanks for the manner with which you received my recommendation of Mr. Beaufort.† I trust and believe he will not prove a discredit to either of us. I have been twice in London within the last

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manded in chief in Syria when Bonaparte left for France. He was assassinated at Cairo by a Turkish fanatic. His body was eventually buried in the 'Place d'Armes' at Strasburg, a bronze statue being erected over it in 1840.

\* Mr. Bulkeley was with Nelson at the attack on St. Juan, and was much attached to him. Nelson obtained a commission for Bulkeley's son Richard, mentioned later in the letter. He served as a Midshipman on board the *Victory*, was wounded at the battle of Trafalgar, was made a Lieutenant in 1806, and died in 1810.

† Sir Francis Beaufort, 1774–1857, Hydrographer to the Navy. He entered the navy in 1787, saw a good deal of active service, and received post rank in 1810. He was much employed in surveying, and in 1829 was appointed Hydrographer to the Navy, a post he held for twenty-six years. In 1846 he was made a Rear-Admiral on the retired list, and retired from the service in 1855. His scientific work was solely in connexion with his office, but he was a Fellow of the Royal Society, and contributed papers to some scientific journals.

four weeks. Both times I saw, as you may suppose, Lady Nelson very often, & your good old father on whom the hand of time presses hard; he appears gradually to sink, and with Christian resignation to look forward to those blissful regions which are the ultimate abode of such men as him. God grant him an undisturbed journey and the reward he merits. Lady Nelson's health appears much mended since last summer. She looks anxiously for your return, but, as well as the rest of your friends, knows not how to flatter herself. Reports have been so many and positive, that at last I expected to see you so soon as to determine me not to write. However, I find it so uncertain that I can withhold no longer, and the report of an expedition from hence to the Mediterranean almost assures me that *you can't* come home for the present. For the sake of the general cause, I wish from my heart that I may not see you till you have given *fresh* cause for *envy*, to be envied by the brave and deserving may be reconcileable, for from such men one expects liberality. But to be the envy of *blockheads* and *fellows* who, if the opportunity presented itself, could not and would not if they could avail themselves of the precious moment, quite drives me mad. For one part of the many things said of you you may have some reason to be vain, for it has begot you the prayers & praises of the fair sex who *all* impatiently await your return, each hoping that she may be one of the select few who are to become slaves to your amorous passion. I mention this that you may come back to us, determined to gratify your own countrywomen as much as you have by all accounts others in *your* Italian States.

'In three or four weeks I hope to move to a house which I have just purchased in Shropshire; my address, remember, when you write will be *Ludlow, Shropshire*. You may recollect one evening I called on you and Lady Nelson in Bond Street, my boys were with me; you then showed them your sword, that, with what passed at the same time and frequently hearing me speak of you, made such an impression on one of them who is in his thirteenth year, that for two years past he has been secretly indulging a fancy to go to sea. This, however, he cautiously kept to himself, believing that I would not give my consent. However, within the last six weeks he determined on *writing himself to you* to solicit your intercession with me. He actually wrote a letter which I intercepted, and this led to a discovery which surprised, and of course led to a conversation in which I found him so determined that no arguments I was master of could move him from his purpose, and at last I have been forced to make him happy by promising that if he applies diligently to *mathematics*, French, and Italian until he is *fourteen*, he shall then pursue his inclination, and by that time I trust in God peace will be restored, so that he will have quite an *up-hill* game before him. However, as *you* have *bit* him, you must be his physician. I hope you may be back by the time *Pat* takes his seat in the Imperial Parliament, for it will be necessary some cool and determined hands should be in each house to keep my poor countrymen in order. I am endeavouring to be one of the hundred in the Lower House, but I fear I have not much chance.

'Mrs. Bulkeley desires her best regards and compliments to you, and I am,' &c.

467. A. L. S. 'W. S. S.' from Sir W. Sidney Smith to Sir W. Hamilton. Dated *Tigre*, between Alexandria and Candia, March 18th, 1800. 4 pages folio. [H.]

'Your letter of the 6th of March reaches me at the moment I was going to acknowledge those of the 27 & 28 Jan<sup>r</sup>. The letters you have read were from the dissatisfied portion of the army which may be called the evacuation party, and written in concert to make them agree in order to over-reach the colonist party. The latter pass their time so much better on their estates here with Oriental luxuries, women and everything but wine, than they would in Paris, where they know they would not be able to recover their pay, that they are outrageous against Kléber for having signed the Convention. The fact is there was just discontent enough in the army for it to be a favourable time to profit by it, and get them all out of the country *together*. The Turkish purses given them are only the anticipation of three months' revenue given in ready money to pay the



arrears of the army and stop the mouths of non-contents, the Turkish Government, by article 16, entering into the immediate receipt of the current revenues, and relinquishing full magazines to a very great amount, the deficit remaining as a debt due from France to the Porte. Now, even if the two latter clauses were not in the conditions, it is no bad bargain to buy the farm of those revenues with certain benefit of survivorship—in fact, Egypt itself, for a sum under 120,000*l.*, or three months' purchase; therefore, the mention of the purses is only a *manière de parler*, indicating dissent to the measure, which, I assure you, was maturely weigh'd & sufficiently discussed by the persons most interested in opposing the demands for these favourable conditions, & which of course would not have been granted at last if there had been a better alternative. If the conditions are not executed now that the Turkish troops are advanced into the country, and that the French advanced posts have been given up to them, it will be productive of much mischief and no possible good, for even suppose after Kléber had beaten the Vezir, which in all human probability he will, that the continued efforts of an immense population drives the French out of *Lower* Egypt, nothing can ever eradicate them from *Upper* Egypt, where a French revolutionary colony would be a perpetual thorn in our side. I hear Austria is jealous at our sending troops to fight against her. But suppose for a moment that Bonaparte's intrigues change, the Vezir, whose credit must of course be much shaken by this check he has met with at the *moment* of his being about to enter Cairo, and that his successor should be a man to listen to Bonaparte's suggestions, he may bring his Egyptian army northward, and with a centre of 18,000 men in regular battalions, & two wings of Turkish light troops who will fight if they have certain support to rally to occasionally (N.B. If the allies frown too much, Kléber may persuade the present Vezir to this) I ask any reasonable man, whether Austria and Russia have not much more to fear in this way than by this army (united now by a common interest only), being dispersed in the mass of the population of France, to carry their swords and their complaints of Bonaparte's tyranny, cruelty, desertion, ambition & 'usurpation' into every department and every family. Believe me, the question has been fairly weigh'd in that point of view, and I have no doubt of this army going home being the worst thing that can happen to his power. Surely if *he* is so anxious that they should not set their foot in France, we need not be so anxious to favour his wishes by keeping his colony for him, or rather restoring it to him. It is still ours if we choose to receive it, for Kléber stands firm to his engagement, requiring a delay in the evacuation of Cairo proportionate to ours, and has ascendancy enough in the army to keep the clamours of Bonaparte's few partizans in good order. I earnestly hope you will be able to convince Lord Nelson that what has been done is for the best, for I should be very sorry to have him feel otherwise towards me than he has done since your kind offices induced him to conceive more favourable ideas of my sentiments towards him than he did at first. I thank you very much, my dear Sir William, for your kind enquiries after my health. I have had a bowel complaint, from the life led in the desert, which was common to us all, and has been fatal to mankind ever since Moses' time. I was soon well again, but am half blind with so many nights' writing, & heartily tired of my double duties. It is now difficult for me to see, so good night, or rather good morning, for the present. Yours, &c.

468. A. L. S. (marked private) from Mr. J. Spencer Smith to Lord Nelson. Dated Constantinople, March 20th, 1800. 2 pages 4to. [P.]

'After supposing you by this time enjoying *otium cum dignitate* at home, I have the satisfaction of learning your return being countermanded in such a credible way as encourages me to return you a few lines of acknowledgement for your obliging letters of 4 and 6 November, and the useful and agreeable present by which they were accompanied, and which were safely delivered by the bearer. I am quite ashamed that you should be, as is possible, still in our neighbourhood, and perhaps think me remiss in an attention of this nature, an inattention I am, believe me, incapable of, particularly towards one whose public character I

venerate, and whose private acquaintance I am so ambitious of as your Lordship's. If you do remain in the Mediterranean I do not despair of still shaking by the hand your Lordship and Sidney, and our good old Sir William, all at once, for I am doing my best to get out of this mousetrap, and certain folks your Lordship saw *en passant* at Palermo will not be backward in assisting me therein, nay, perhaps they came here with the intention of anticipating my wishes upon this score.

'From the unprecedented stagnation of my communications with my brother I suppose your Lordship must infallibly know more about him than I can tell you; and, as I send this letter a cruising voyage after you thro' Lord Minto's hands, I shall indulge in any speculations which may be thrown away or arrive out of season, which I presume to flatter myself can never be the case with the assurances of my being ever,' &c.

'P. S. I do not know whether you ever took the trouble of directing your correspondents in London to settle the Straal accompt with my bankers, as it is an age since I heard from them. But if you have not, as I happen to be in want of money here from various causes, it will be useful to me if you will send me a bill for the amount thro' Foresti, or thro' the squadron in our seas. My best respects to Sir W. & Lady Hamilton. Adieu.'

469. A. L. S. from Captain Ball to Mr. Macaulay. Dated Malta, March 22nd, 1800. 2½ pages folio., with Superscription. [P.]

'Many thanks to you, my dear friend, for your two letters from Girgenti, and one from Palermo, dated the 14th inst, which contain the most pleasing information. Be assured that I will never forget the kind interest you take in my concerns. I assure you that I miss you very much, and hope your stay will be very short at Palermo. I request you to return as soon as possible. You have the good wishes of all the Maltese, who have a true sense of your disinterested zeal in rendering them services and enlightening their minds. I have had several petitioners for the place of *Ingénieur et Surintendant des grands Chemins* in the room of Signior *Macoli*; but, since I have explained that the only profit you gained by your labour was a good appetite, they all hope you will return and enjoy the same many years, in which I most sincerely join them. I send off to Count de Jatt 60,000 scudi; everything goes on smooth, Caruana is coming round, and behaves very well. I shall write to General Acton a letter of thanks the 24th, and I shall send you a longer letter. I rejoice sincerely that our worthy Italinsky has obtained the distinguished honours he so much merits. I shall write him a congratulatory letter in a day or two. I shall attend to all you have said in your letters, which I consider very essential.

'Pray let me know what Sir William Hamilton is determined on; he is the most amiable and accomplished man I know, and his heart is certainly one of the best in the world. I wish he and her Ladyship would pay me a visit; they are an irreparable loss to me, for I am convinced that, but for their influence with their Sicilian Majesties and his Ministers, the poor Maltese would have been starved, and my head would have been sacrificed in their moment of despair. I long to know Lord Nelson's determination; it is impossible that any person can feel more pure regard for him than I do, for I have seen him in the hour of danger and difficulties, and I never can forget his great and immortal traits. General Graham will not allow my Maltese to make false attacks, all I can urge will not do. I can perceive that he gives in to Lord Keith's prejudices, as he relates and repeats whatever is against our friends at Palermo. He does not do it to me, knowing that my friendship revolts at it. Adieu, my dear friend. Believe me,' &c.

470. A. L. S. from Captain Tyson to Lady Hamilton. Dated *Le Génereux*, Port Mahon, March 23rd, 1800. 3 pages 4to. [P.]

'After some of the most severe gales of wind I have experienced for many years, we arrived here on the 16th inst, having split most of our sails, and very near



losing our masts. The gale we had coming from Naples was nothing to the one we had on the 9th of the month. We were obliged to run 100 miles before the wind to save the masts, and the sea breaking on board the ship on both sides; fortunately she was very tight in her bottom. This will, no doubt, put you in mind of Allen on board the *Vanguard*, 'while the sticks stand,' &c. I am sorry to find this place so badly stocked with every thing—no tea, coffee, sugar, or cheese to be had, or indeed anything fit to eat. I am exceedingly anxious to hear of our invaluable Lord Nelson, as in his last letter he mentions a return of the pain in his heart, of which he suffered so much coming from Egypt. I hope he is recovered again, and that you have heard from him lately that he is so. Every day here seems a week, until I get back to him I shall not be easy. I am using all my efforts to get the *Généreux* cleared, but she has such a quantity of provisions and stores on board that I cannot get any storehouses here to put them into, and I shall be obliged to land them on the wharf, and sell off as well I can. I have no assistance from any one except the officers of the dock-yard. Another expedition sailed from Toulon for Malta on the 5th of this month. I hope and trust Lord Nelson will fall in with them, and I doubt not the issue. The French have not one ship of war of any description at Toulon; at present only one corvette which escaped us on the 18th of February. Should an opportunity offer for this place, may I beg the favour of your Ladyship to tell me all about Lord Nelson, my anxiety is very great on his account. I feel more than I can express about his health.

'The weather is so cold here, and not one square of glass in our cabin windows, that I am half starved, and have been in bed all day yesterday in a fever and sore throat. The French rascals broke all the windows before we took possession of her, and I cannot get a lodging on shore for money. An English ship is going to Palermo in a few days, when I will send you up what I can collect, as I know your city does not produce much. May I also beg the favour of you to desire Mrs Cadogan's Secretary to tell me all the news of Palermo, &c. My head is so bad at present that I am really not able to write to them, and my throat is so sore that I can only swallow liquids. If it continues I shall go to the hospital, for we have no surgeon, or any attendance from other ships.

'I hope that good Sir William enjoys his health, to whom I beg of you to make my respectful compliments, and that he may long do so as well as your Ladyship, Mrs Cadogan, &c., is the sincere wish of your Ladyship's,' &c.

'A kind of gaol fever has carried off a number of our men, and we have two lieutenants at the hospital, and about fifty men with it, which makes me very anxious to get out of her.'

471. A. L. from Prince di Trabia to Lord Nelson. Dated Palazzo, March 24th, 1800.  $\frac{1}{2}$  page folio, with Superscription. [P.]

Informing Lord Nelson that he is forwarding two letters and a small box, which have been sent to his care from Malta for his Lordship.

472. A. L. S. from Lady Nelson to Lord Nelson. Dated St. James's St., March 25th (1800). 4 pages 4to., with Superscription and Seal. [H.]

'The Admiralty yesterday received letters from Lord Keith dat'd Jan<sup>y</sup> 21; he mentions your joining him in good health—thank God for it! I hope you have seen my Josiah, that you love him not for my sake, but his *own*. Our good father is wonderfully recovered, but still very feeble. Aunt Mary's\* death has hurried him; many letters from the Rector passed on the occasion. The will was in our

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\* Lord Nelson had three aunts on his father's side:—Mary, who died in 1800; Alice, who married the Rev. Robert Rolfe, Rector of Hilborough; and Thomasine, who married John Goulty, Esq., of Norwich.

father's possession, but many memorandums were found in chests of drawers. M<sup>rs</sup> Goulty is left £150; M<sup>rs</sup> Rollf, £20 or £30 for the repairs of the house; Charlotte, £20. The Rector writes to his father: 'knowing you were left everything, M<sup>rs</sup> Nelson or myself never made use of any undue influence with my aunt in her last illness,' and in the same letter hopes with your father's assistance to purchase the house which is left to M<sup>rs</sup> Rollf, as she intends selling it. Our father observed the necessity of committing the Rector's letter to the flames, which I think he has done. I should not be surprised to see M<sup>r</sup> & M<sup>rs</sup> W. Nelson in town about Easter, as our father told W. N. his children should spend the holidays with him. Charlotte can be accommodated, but where Horace will be put I can't tell. M<sup>rs</sup> Miller called, and requested you would have the goodness to notice the young man she recommend'd to you, and gave me a letter to forward to M<sup>r</sup> Vernon Gambier Yates, Mid on board *Le Tigre*, which I shall this day take to Lombard Street. Cap<sup>t</sup> Kelly is in town for a few days; I asked him what he intended doing in regard to the legacy—"they know it's due, and I shall be glad to receive it; I will speak to Morton about it." But I have seen such terrible quarrels in my own family about money that I dread to say a word; between you and I they are paying M<sup>rs</sup> Hamilton great court. I spoke to M<sup>rs</sup> Hamilton and requested that it might be paid, it had been due upwards of 12 months; what will be done time will discover. The Parkers are very attentive and kind to me. A<sup>d</sup> Parker is in a very ill state of health. Lord S<sup>t</sup> Vincent is still confined to the house; it has been said his Lordship *neglected* his *health* too much in Italy. Lady S<sup>t</sup> Vincent told me she now began to hope he would get well. We see very little of Maurice. I will thank you to notice Cap<sup>t</sup> Hammond;\* his father and mother have been very civil to me. I had last night the pleasure of reading your letter to our father, dated Palermo, Febr<sup>y</sup> 7th; it made him cheerful, and I believe made him sit up one hour later. I hope *Thalia* will be your last stay in the Mediterranean, for my son would not like England without you. So many new fashions about visiting, that were I to attempt to give you an idea it w<sup>d</sup> fill a sheet. God bless you, & believe me,' &c.

473. A. L. S. from the same to the same. Dated March 29th (1800).

2 pages 4to., with Superscription and Seal. [H.]

'I have this instant received a note from Ad<sup>m</sup> Young,† who tells me if I can send him a letter for you in an hour he will send it, therefore, I have only time to say I have at last had the pleasure of receiving two letters from you, dated Jan<sup>an</sup> 20<sup>th</sup>, 25. I rejoice exceedingly I did not follow the advice of the physician and our good father to change the climate, and I hope my health will be established by hot sea bathing and the warmth of the summer.

'I can with safety put my hand on my heart and say it has been my study to please and make you happy, and I still flatter myself we shall meet before very long. I feel most sensibly all your kindnesses to my dear son, and I hope he will add much to our comfort. Our good father has been in good spirits ever since we heard from you; indeed, my spirits were quite worn out, the time had been so long. I thank God for the preservation of my dear husband, and your recent success off Malta. The taking of the *Généreux* seems to give great spirits to all. God bless you, my dear husband, and grant us a happy meeting, & believe me,' &c.

'Our father's love and blessing attend you.

'I don't seal my letter with black lest I should alarm you.

'My love to my dear Josiah.'

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\* Captain, afterwards Admiral Sir Graham Eden Hamond, 1779-1862, entered the navy in 1785, served under Lord Howe, was at the blockade of Malta, and at the siege of Copenhagen; captured some Spanish treasure ships in 1804, and was at the reduction of Flushing in 1809. He was made a Rear-Admiral in 1825, Vice-Admiral in 1837, Admiral in 1847, and Admiral of the Fleet in 1862. He succeeded his father as 2nd Baronet in 1828.

† Admiral Sir William Young, a distinguished naval officer. He obtained post rank in 1778, and was promoted to be Rear-Admiral in 1795, and one of the Lords of the Admiralty from 1795 to 1801. He died, Admiral of the Red, in 1821, at an advanced age.



474. A. L. S. 'Bronté Nelson of the Nile,' from Lord Nelson to Sir W. Hamilton. Dated Palermo, March 30th, 1800 3 pages 4to.\* [H.]

'As, from the orders I have given to all the ships under my command, to arrest and bring into port all vessels and troops returning, by convention with the Porte, to France, and as the Russian ships have similar orders, I must request that your Excellency will endeavour to arrange with the Government of this country, how in the first instance they are to be treated and received in the ports of the Two Sicilies; for it is obvious I can do nothing more than bring them into port; and, if they are kept on board ship, the fever will make such ravages as to be little short of the plague.

'It is a very serious consideration for this country, either to receive them, or let them pass; when they would invade, probably, these kingdoms. In my present situation in the King's fleet, I have only to obey; had I been, as before, in the command, I should have gone one short and direct road to avert this great evil—viz., to have sent a letter to the French, and the Grand Vizir, in Egypt, that I would not, on any consideration, permit a single Frenchman to leave Egypt; and I would do it at the risk of even creating a coldness, for the moment, with the Turks. Of two evils, choose the least; and nothing can be so horrid as permitting that horde of thieves to return to Europe.

'If all the wiseheads had left them to God Almighty, after the bridge was broke, all would have ended well. For I differ entirely with my Commander-in-Chief, in wishing they were permitted to return to France; and, likewise, with Lord Elgin on the great importance of removing them from Egypt. No; there they should perish, has ever been the firm determination of your Excellency's most obedient and faithful servant,' &c.

475. Copy of Letter, S., from the same to Lord Elgin. Dated Palermo, March 31st, 1800. 1½ pages folio. [H.]

'By the Neapolitan courier, and the courier of the Captain Pacha, I am honoured with your Excellency's letters from February 18th to March 1st, all of which, by the very first opportunity, I shall forward to the Commander-in-Chief, who is at Leghorn; and he, of course, will answer your Excellency fully on the subject. But I cannot help most sincerely regretting that ever any countenance was given to the Turks to enter into such a treaty with the French; for I ever held it to be impossible to permit that Army to return to Europe, but as prisoners of war, and in that case, not to France. And was I Commander-in-Chief, even when the thing was done, I should have refused to ratify any consent or approbation of Sir Sidney Smith, and have wrote to both the Grand Vizir and the French General the impossibility of permitting a vanquished army to be placed by one ally in a position to attack another ally. In doing this, I should have taken all means to have made the Sublime Porte sensible of the necessity of the conduct Great Britain was forced to, but I never should for a moment have forgot my text—that, at all risks of giving offence, *not one Frenchman should be allowed to quit Egypt.*

'I have sent all your Lordship's private letters to Lord Keith, who will, I am sure, make a proper use of them. I write by this occasion a letter to the Capitan Pacha, in answer to his, and I am sending them all to the Commander-in-Chief. With every sentiment of respect, believe me, my dear Lord, your,' &c.

476. Extract of a private Letter, S., from the same to the same. Dated Palermo, March 31st, 1800. ½ page folio. [H.]

'I have no scruple in declaring that I should have refused to ratify any tacit

\* The letter is endorsed by Sir William: 'Disposal of the French troops that may come from Egypt.'

† Thomas Bruce, 7th Earl of Elgin, 1766–1841, a general in the army and Ambassador to Turkey; best known as the collector of the famous Grecian antiquities now exhibited in the British Museum under the denomination of the Elgin Marbles.

approbation given by Sir S. Smith to such a treaty, and have positively refused permitting a French ship or French man from sailing on the seas with security. The landing of these troops in Europe may be its destruction, not only as the most hardy troops in the world, but as bringing to a certainty the plague.'

477. Copy of Letter, S., from the same to the Capitan Pasha. Dated Palermo, March 31st, 1800.  $1\frac{3}{4}$  pages folio. [H.]

'By the arrival of your Excellency's courier, I have been honoured with two letters, both of which I have transmitted to Lord Keith, who at present commands the British fleet in the Mediterranean; and I can assure your Excellency that there is not the smallest cause for alarm, even should the whole combined fleets of the enemy venture into the Mediterranean; but, in my opinion, they will not again come inside the Straits. Respecting the second part of your letter, the sending ships to Egypt to escort the French army to France, I have left my Commander-in-Chief to answer that part of your Excellency's letter. But I cannot help regretting, and with the deepest sorrow, that any such treaty should have been entered into with the French invaders and despoilers of the fairest Provinces in the Ottoman Empire, more especially as I own I see not how it is possible to fulfil the treaty; for one ally cannot have the power of getting rid of an enemy's vanquished army, by sending them with arms in their hands to fight against a friend. Could I have been fortunate enough to have been either at the camp of the Grand Vezir, or with your Excellency, it would have been easy to convince, that no ally could consent to receive 16,000 troops to fight against them. I regret in the extreme that the Foreign Ministers at the Sublime Porte did not make proper representations of the impossibility of permitting the return of such an army but as *prisoners of war* (for in no other way could they be allowed to pass) must be obvious to every capacity. But, situated as I am at this moment in the Mediterranean fleet, my station is only to obey the orders of my Commander-in-Chief. I rejoice to hear that your Excellency enjoys good health, and I trust the time will come when I can assure you in person with what respect and attachment I feel myself your faithful friend,' &c.

478. A. L. S. from Captain Ball to 'Her Excellency la Chevalière Hamilton.' Dated March 31st, 1800. 1 page 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'Your Ladyship in reality condescends to treat me like a brother, and I declare upon the faith of a chevalier that I will devote my time to prove myself deserving your confidence. I shall hope to see you soon at Malta; in the mean time I am sure you will not allow our invaluable friend Lord Nelson to fret at not being present at the capture of the last French ship composing the Egyptian fleet; it would not have added to the importance of the achievements he has already gained. I have written to him and to your most estimable Sir William. God protect your Ladyship,' &c.

479. A. L. S. from Lord Nelson to Sir W. Hamilton. Dated Palermo, April 9th, 1800.  $1\frac{1}{2}$  pages 4to. [H.]\*

'I send your Excellency an extract of a letter from Sir Thomas Troubridge, which I request you will have the goodness to communicate to his Excellency Sir John Acton. I have also had several, and very serious, applications made to me to know when the £60,000 sterling is to be paid for the capture of Civita Vecchia and Rome. By the British laws, the whole of the public property became the immediate property of the captors; and they had a right to it, if they chose to exert that right. But situated as his Sicilian Majesty's affairs were in the Roman State, they thought it better to submit the matter to me, and to give up everything—the rich museums, the ships in the port of Civita Vecchia, &c. &c.—

\* Endorsed by Sir William: A copy sent to Gen<sup>l</sup> Acton, on the subject of the capitulation of Rome & Civita Vecchia.'



to his Sicilian Majesty's officers. The above-mentioned sum was arranged and agreed to, I understood, by General Acton ; for although certainly not a quarter of what was right, yet the exertions to get that right would have forced the Romans to call in the Austrians, and to expel the Neapolitan troops by insurrections of the people. I own I am anxious, and feel my credit with the captains, officers and men committed that this sum of money should be paid before I quit my present situation, which my health forces me to.

'I am confident your Excellency will do everything which is right and just for the brave officers and men under my command, and who look up for protection to, my dear Sir William, your faithful and obliged friend,' &c.

480. A. L. S. from Captain Dixon to Lord Nelson. Dated *Lion*, at Syracuse, April 9th, 1800. 2 pages folio. [P.]

'I have the honour to inform you of the ready condition of the *Lion* to proceed on service, and that I shall sail this evening, if the wind permits, with two transports full of French prisoners for Malta. I inclose your Lordship a list of them as correct as I can procure.

'The *Foudroyant*, which your Lordship will hear from Sir Edward Berry, is almost ready to proceed where you may direct, and in tolerable state, considering the bad wounds in the lower masts. *Guillaume Tell* will be ready in four or five days.

'I have taken upon me to appoint Lieutenant Inglis of the *Penelope* to command her ; likewise the boatswain and carpenter, and the Master of *Bonne Citoyen* is removed into her. I hope your Lordship will approve of this ; they are careful and good officers, and the state of the prize requires such.

'We have many stories as to what has been stowed in prizes in Valetta ; the French Admiral allowed there was money in her, when he found she was entering in safety into this port, and a Neapolitan says he was at the stowing away a number of brass cannon in the hold, and that in some *money was stowed*. As for the cannon I believe him, but not a syllable of the latter.

'Our wounded in the two ships are doing very well. I visited the hospital where the French are yesterday, and had the pleasure to find the French officers and surgeon fully satisfied with their treatment, indeed I never saw a better hospital.

'I condole with your Lordship most sensibly on the melancholy fate which has attended the *Charlotte*.

'I beg my best respects and compliments to Sir William and Lady Hamilton, and the good mother, and have the honour to remain with the highest esteem and respect,' &c.

481. A. L. S. from Lord Nelson to Sir W. Hamilton. Dated Palermo, April 10th, 1800. 2 pages 4to. [H.]\*

'Reports are brought to me that the Spanish ships of war in this port are preparing to put to sea—a circumstance which must be productive of very unpleasant consequences to both England and this country. It is fully known with what exactness I have adhered to the neutrality of this port ; for, upon our arrival here from Naples, in December 1798, from the conduct of his Catholic Majesty's Minister, I should have been fully justified in seizing these ships. We know that one object of the Spanish fleet, combined with the French, was to wrest entirely from the hands of his Sicilian Majesty his kingdoms of the Two Sicilies. The Spaniards are, by bad councils, the tools of the French, and, of course, the bitter enemy of his Sicilian Majesty and family. The conduct I have pursued towards these ships, circumstanced as they are, has been moderate and truly considerate towards his Sicilian Majesty.

'The time is now come that, profiting by my forbearance, the Spanish ships are fitting for sea. It is not possible, if they persist in their preparations, that I

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\* Endorsed by Sir William : 'On the subject of the Spanish ships preparing for sea. A copy sent to Sir J. Acton.'

can avoid attacking them, even in the port of Palermo ; for they never can or shall be suffered to go to sea, and placed in a situation of assisting the French, against not only Great Britain, but also the Two Sicilies. I have, therefore, to request that your Excellency will convey my sentiments on this very delicate subject to his Sicilian Majesty's Ministers, that they may take measures to prevent such a truly unpleasant event happening, which would be as much against my wish as it can be against theirs ; and I request that your Excellency will, through the proper channel, assure his Sicilian Majesty that his safety and honour are as dear to me as that of our Royal Master. I have the honour to be with the greatest respect, my dear Sir William, your Excellency's, &c.

482. A. L. S. 'B.' (in French) from Lord Bristol to the Queen of Naples.

Dated 'à San Luccio, ce 18 Avril, 1800.' 1 $\frac{3}{4}$  pages folio, with Superscription. [P.]

'Vous scavez à quel point je suis attaché à votre personne, vous ne scavez pas à quel point je m'intéresse à vos intérêts ; mais en voici la preuve, et fiez vous, je vous en conjure, à l'adorateur de vos talens et de votre cœur sensible.

'Si vous êtes dans le cas d'exiger du nouveau Pontif les Marais Pontins, soyez sûre que la plus mauvaise administration vous fera rendre 400,000 livres sterlines, ou bien 800,000 onces Napolitaines par année.

'Elles contiennent 400,000 arpens de terres, chaque boisseau de froment semé rende 45 boisseaux de profit, et chaque boisseau de *grano turco* rende 110 boisseaux de profit.

'Ces Marais Pontins ne rendent presque rien *alla camera di Roma*, étant accordés à des pantalons et des boufons come Duc Braschi, Architecte Morelli & Rapini.

'Il faudra les diviser ces Marais Pontins en fermes de deux cens arpens, & rien de plus, et bâtir, ou faire bâtir, une maison pour chaque deux cens arpens.

'Si Votre Majesté trouve à propos d'adopter cette idée je réponde du reste. Le terrain au moyen des digues que je ferai faire se haussera en dix années de plus de dix pieds, et, je le répète, vous fera un revenu de plus de 400,000 livres sterlines.

'En cas que vous voulussiez y ajouter la petite ville de de Velletri, je m'engage, moi, de la rendre un autre Gibelterra, ou un autre Luxemburg, et le tout sera un domaine royal supérieur à tout ce que possède aucun monarque en Europe, et vous mettera dans le cas d'abolir bien des impots onéreux au peuple Napolitain.'

483. A. L. from the same to Lady Hamilton. No date (April 18th, 1800).  $\frac{3}{4}$  page folio, with Superscription. [P.]

'DEAREST EMMA,—The enclosed is a project for the improvement of the Pontine Marshes, in case the queen and her counsel chuse to exact them from the new Pope Joan, or whore of Babylon.

'I myself was the first to advise the late Pope to the drainage. I began the drainage with Rapini ; they contain 800,000 acres, well worth 800,000*l.* sterline ; and, believe me, the Camera, as it is called, does get 100*l.* sterlin. Now or never is the moment.'

484. A. L. S. from Sir W. Hamilton to Charles Greville. Dated Palermo, April 22nd, 1800. 4 pages 4to. [H.]

'I have this day presented my recredential letters to their Sicilian Majesties, and M<sup>r</sup> Paget having presented his credential letters, to-morrow we go with Lord Nelson in the *Foudroyant* to look at Malta, & shall return here in a few days, when Lord Nelson expects an answer from Lord Keith, having asked his Lordship's permission to return home on account of his health, which indeed is much impaired by wounds & such constant exertions his Lordship has been engaged in so many years. Lord Keith will probably grant his Lord<sup>ship's</sup> request for a frigate



or ship to carry him home, [and in that case we are to return home with his Lordship, &, which is my ambition, will have to travel together]. The taking of the *Guillaume Tell* by the *Foudroyant* has completed Lord Nelson's task, and he has a good right to a little repose, particularly as he has been superceded in the command of the Mediterranean squadron. The fatal accident that has befallen the *Queen Charlotte* at Leghorn, must have given a great shock in England : poor Lord Keith is certainly not fortunate.

'My taking leave at Court yesterday was certainly a moving scene, and does me honour. Mr Paget has shown great impatience to present his credential letters. I have certainly been friendly and open to him, but his behaviour to me has been cold & reserved from the moment of his arrival, nor has he asked me any questions relative to this Court or country, and of which I must certainly know more of than he can, having been Minister at Naples before he was born. In short, *entre nous*, if he does not endeavour to make himself more amiable than he is at present, he cannot be much liked here, but this is only to yourself, and I may be mistaken, as I have seen very little of him. I still hope that Genoa & Malta may fall before we leave the Mediterranean, & then I shall think Italy tolerably secure. Adieu, my dear Charles, your,' &c.

[ 'Emma's kind comp<sup>ts</sup> ; she is in despair at the thought of parting with the Queen of N.']\*

485. A. L. S. from Captain Ball to Lady Hamilton. Dated May 19th, (1800). 1½ pages 4to. [P.]

'I congratulate you, my dear sister, on escaping all the miseries of sea-sickness by remaining at anchor to-day. Our dear and inestimable Lord has been harassed and fatigued with anxiety. I am most thoroughly convinced that his Lordship's spasm is brought on by anxiety of mind, I therefore rejoice at your being on board, as I am sure you will exert your powers to keep up his spirits, and the worthy Sir William will contribute much to it.

'I have sent his Lordship intelligence of 5000 troops being expected here hourly ; it may induce him to stay a few days longer. Whether or not, you have my ardent wish for prosperous gales and every blessing in this life. My very best respects to Sir William and the ladies, and believe me with every grateful sentiment, my dear sister, your affectionate and obliged,' &c.

486. A. L. S. from the same to the same. Dated Malta, May 26th, 1800. 2 pages 4to. [P.]

'I desired Tyson to assure you that I should have written a note to you to accompany the letter to my wife, but I had not time. She will be much gratified in having an occasion of personally expressing to you and Sir William how often I have spoken of your goodness and friendship to me. I must give you a little description of her : she has a strong mind, great discernment, and good judgment, with an excellent disposition. She is neither young nor handsome, but well made, and what flatters me much is, the idea that she is now more attached to me than the day of her marriage, fifteen years ago. She has likewise presented me with an uncommonly fine boy, affectionate and good. Next to my [heart] comes our dear Bronté Nelson ; you and worthy Sir William will, I hope, keep up his spirits, and not let him fatigue himself on deck. I sincerely hope your journey will be attended with every possible advantage and satisfaction to you. God bless and protect you both. My very best respects to Sir William, M<sup>rs</sup> Cadogan, M<sup>rs</sup> Graeffe, and Miss Knight, and believe me ever, my dear Lady,' &c.

487. Letter, stamped with signet seal (in Italian), from Hamuda Bassi Bei to Lord Nelson. Dated 'from the Bardo of Tunis, the well guarded, the abode of Felicity,' the first of the month Moharrem,

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\* The two portions in square brackets have been obliterated, but not sufficiently so to prevent their being deciphered.

year of the Hegira 1215, or May 26th, 1800. 4 pages folio with Superscription. [P.]

Never having been favoured with a reply to the letter which I had the honour of writing to your Excellency on the 27th of June last year, respecting the illegal confiscation of a vessel's cargo belonging to my subjects, which was ordered by the commander of the Portuguese squadron under your Excellency's command, I now beg to confirm it with the enclosed copy, and to enter into some explanations on the transaction, it being one of considerable importance to me.

The treaty of peace and commerce between the European powers and the Ottoman Empire, and also the Regency of Barbary, guaranteed mutually the safety of property and persons of enemies whilst under friendly flags, and that even were such vessels taken, both the individuals and the merchandize should always be reciprocally respected and restored. In consequence, I urge upon your Excellency's notice, the fact that this treaty has never been infringed by me, but on the contrary, has been always faithfully and scrupulously observed, having severely punished such of my subjects as have violated it, a recent instance of which occurred, not to mention many others which have taken place during past years. Various Neapolitan and Genoese prizes having been brought in by my corsaires, one of which laden on account of an English subject, after proof was produced to that effect by the consul residing here, was released by me. Last year several neutral and friendly vessels being brought in here by my corsaires, because some were found to be freighted on account of Genoese, others on account of Sardinians and Neapolitans and Portuguese, were immediately released by my orders, having indemnified the respective captains for the losses they sustained, and punished my Raïs for having stopt them. In like manner the vessels freighted by individuals of Barbary, and trading between the Levant and Italy were never stopt, but on the contrary, were respected by the ships of war, and were even in cases of necessity admitted into the ports of our enemies and protected, whether Neapolitan, Sicilian, Maltese, Sardinian, Tuscan, Papal, or Genoese. They were not then the outragers of all laws or treaties from whom the Portuguese admiral ought to have taken an example. Besides, his conduct in this instance was arbitrary and contradictory, for at the same time that his frigate took the Ragusan in question, other vessels similarly freighted by and for Barbary merchants were met and visited by other ships of his squadron and allowed to pursue their voyage, and why should he, whilst releasing and forwarding from Malta the Tunisian passengers who were on board of her, detain and confiscate their effects and merchandise? In my view of the laws of war, such a determination should at least have been preceded by a declaration or manifesto for the information and regulation of everybody concerned, because such an act, abolishing ancient customs and nullifying treaties hitherto generally binding, is calculated to produce infinite mischief to the powers at peace with us, besides continual annoyance to the court of Portugal, as in this case from the republic of Ragusa, and exposing the trade of Portugal to reprisals from us. Firm in this principle, and more confirmed by the contents of the friendly letter which I received from your Excellency on the 17<sup>th</sup> of March 1799, I assured my subjects (who were fearful), that they might securely and freely trade, and I also told my corsaires that they had nothing to fear from the Portuguese squadron, because it was under your orders.

If then our confidence was so implicitly given to the word of so eminent and just a chief, why should we not receive his assistance in this just demand? Why will he permit the confiscation of the property of persons who were respected and sent on their destination freely, or will he not exercise his authority in conformity with his promises spontaneously made, and not permit so many poor individuals to be plundered, and so many innocent orphans to suffer, who continually appeal to me with their just complaints and demands? I repeat, that if it were not for the entire reliance I reposed and ever shall repose in your Excellency's rectitude and wisdom, I should have issued orders to my corsaires to stop all the vessels they met with, either going to or from Portugal, until myself and my subjects were indemnified for this severe loss, but I have not done so, and



shall refrain until I have received your Excellency's reply, which, I flatter myself cannot be other than satisfactory.

I am informed that your Excellency's departure for England for a short period is approaching. I anticipate, therefore, from your kindness and well-known exactness precise information as to your intentions before you leave these seas. I earnestly wish you a happy voyage, and as soon as you return, I hope to hear where I may again offer you the assurance of my high esteem, &c.

488. A. L. (in Mr. Compton's writing), from Mr. and Mrs. Compton to Sir W. and Lady Hamilton. Dated Florence, June 3rd, 1800. 2 pages 4to., with envelope. [P.]

'Mr. & Mrs. Compton present their most respectful compliments and kind regards to Sir W<sup>m</sup> & Lady Hamilton, perhaps unfashionable in sincere attentions now they are not public personages, but they are incapable of ever forgetting civilities or little acts of kindness & attention, nor do their sentiments or conduct change with times, therefore tho' not honoured with even a line from Lady Hamilton, they c<sup>d</sup> not hear of S<sup>r</sup> W<sup>m</sup>'s and her approaching departure for England, without a few friendly lines to convey their most hearty best wishes for their safe and pleasant arrival, and that they may enjoy there all health and felicity. They will find a most prodigious change in everything in England. Probably, they find already some in many respects, tho' probably not in the Queen of Naples, who is also attended with Mr. & Mrs. C.'s good wishes. They long lived happily at Naples, & shall rejoice to pay their homage to their Majesties there again. They beg to be kindly remembered to good Mrs. Cadogan; if not too presumptuous this duty also to their Majesties, to whom none wish better than they do.

'If not too great a favour, they shall be much obliged to Sir W<sup>m</sup> and Lady Hamilton if they do not quite forget Mr. and Mrs. C. as real friends to honor them with an account of their safe arrival, and how they like England as a guide to themselves after so long an absence, and whether they purpose to return to Naples, since that would be a great inducement to Mr. & Mrs. C. to go and inhabit it again.

'They trouble their respected friend Lord Bronté Nelson to deliver this to Lady Hamilton as a testimony of lasting & kind remembrance.

'Please to direct W<sup>m</sup> Compton, Esq., LL.D., Florence. I believe we shall return hither from Leghorn,' &c.

489. A. L. S. from Eliza Perconte, born Ashburner, to Lady Elizabeth Foster. Dated Palermo, June 9th, 1800. 2 pages 4to., with Superscription and Seal. [P.]

'My own dear Mamma, my kind, my generous benefactress, for such you have been to me, since your favor of the 17<sup>th</sup> August, '99, I have not been honored with hearing from you, tho' I have wrote three times. But now the departure of my kind friends, Sir W<sup>m</sup>, Lady H., Lord Nelson, &c., procures me a sure conveyance, I take my pen, first, to enquire concerning your health, & next, to acquaint you that after so many years of trouble & vicissitudes of various kinds, providence has at last given a more favourable turn to things, nor do I owe small obligations to the above-mentioned friends for the lively interest and active part they have taken in my concerns, to which I owe in a great measure the conclusion of them; they promised you to assist me, & have most effectually kept their word. The employ confer'd by their Majesties on my friend about five or six months ago is, tho' not a very lucrative, yet an honourable one. He is chosen for one of the eight secretaries of these provinces. But I will give it you in his native terms: *Secretario refferendario del Regno*, vacant by the death of the Marquis Airoldi; the consequence of all this is that he immediately presented a petition to the Queen for the conclusion of our marriage, which was granted on Wednesday last, the fourth of this month, our good King's birthday. It was performed in the Queen's private chapel, her Majesty and the Royal Family all present, as was Sir W<sup>m</sup> and Lady H., Lord Nelson, &c., who came to the palace after dining on board his

Lordship's ship, so that, from them also you will receive the same account. Happy indeed, should I have been to have been honoured by your presence also, but you were so, tho' not personally, since my thoughts are constantly with you. Do me, I beg of you, the honour to let me hear from you. I should have had unspeakable satisfaction if my reverend Lord Bristol had also come to Palermo, but he has remained at Naples. I wait, my dear Mamma, the return of the Court & my dear Princess. Many things may yet be accomplished which as yet, from circumstances, could not continue. I intreat your interest for me at the return of my kind friends from England. Perhaps, what I so much wish may take place—but more of that in future. In the meantime, I beg you to believe me with liveliest gratitude for all your goodness,' &c.

'My friend desires his respects, and would write, but fears to be indiscreet.'

490. A. L. S. from Alexander Davison\* to Lady Nelson. No date (June 11th, 1800). 2 pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'It is with much, very much pleasure, I communicate the good account I have received from your dear Lord, under date the 9<sup>th</sup> May, off Malta, and what is better that he is coming home. His words are: "I shall very soon see you in England." These words comprehend everything I wished to know. He writes me fully respecting his claim to prize money as *Commander-in-Chief*, and that he will not relinquish it. His letters have set me to work, and will keep me fully employed for seven days. Towards the 20th instant I fancy your anxious mind will be relieved by receiving to you all that you hold sacred and valuable. The letters I have had came *via* Vienna, and are the latest date. This account cannot fail making Mr Nelson happy. Give my best regards to him, accept the same yourself, and believe me yours most sincerely,' &c.

'Lord Nelson had received all the parcels, &c. &c., sent out by the *Cormorant*.

'The Alexander Horatio Nelson I saw on Sunday in the country, in high health, beauty & spirits.'

491. Facsimile of letter S. from the Queen of Naples, signed also by the rest of the Royal Family, to Lord Nelson. Dated off Leghorn, June 14th, 1800. 1 page 4to. [P.]

'My dear and respectable Lord Nelson,—To the numerous obligations which all Europa, and we particularly, have to you, is to be added our gratitude for the care that you have taken to transport me and my dear children from Palermo to Leghorn. We return you our most sincere thanks, and pray you may be quite sure that all you have done for us will be truly ingraved in our heart. Nothing I desire more than to have frequent occasions to prove you our feelings, our everlasting gratitude, and the great regard with which we are, and will be till the last moment of our life, my respectable Lord Nelson,' &c.

492. A. L. S. from Eliza Perconte to Lady Hamilton. Dated Palermo, July 22nd, 1800. 2 pages 4to. [P.]

'By the arrival of D. Gockino Diesis who has brought me news of my dear & amiable Princess, I learn that you are pursuing the same rout with the Royal Family, and tho' I have not had the pleasure of hearing from you nor any of my friends in your company, I cannot let slip this occasion in answering Madam Christina to send you also a few lines, as a proof that with me the old English proverb, *out of sight out of mind*, will never find a place; on the contrary, I feel more anxious for my friends than ever, & wish earnestly to hear how yourself, Sir W<sup>m</sup>, Lord Nelson, Mr<sup>s</sup> Cadugan, Miss Knight, &c., all are, hoping I shall not be deprived of that consolation. The kind & affectionate manner in which my beloved Princess does me the honour to interest herself for me, is a matter of the greatest

\* Alexander Davison, 1750-1829, a government contractor, Nelson's prize agent and confidential friend.



consolation, but she is always herself, and every favour she confers participates of that delicacy that forms her character. She has provided for my walking parties by sending me a provision of pretty hats, &c. &c., and as you know how dear she is to me, you may easily imagine how precious everything that comes from her is.

'I shall wait with impatience the moment of receiving account of your health. In the meantime I beg you to present my best compliments to all your party, and as I am sure you kindly interest yourself for me, notwithstanding your silence, I will anticipate your enquiries, and tell you that I have, from the delicate and affectionate conduct of my husband, every motive to be content, while his worthy estimable character entitles him to my sincerest regard. He seems to have no pleasure but in endeavouring to render me happy and anticipating all my wishes. But you know his delicate manner of thinking, and will not (I am sure) say I am too partial. I should be ungrateful if I did not justice to such a character as his. I have wrote, since you left us, to Lord Bristol, and sent my letter to M<sup>r</sup> Noble, but unfortunately my Lord had left Naples before it arrived. Not to tire you, I end this, joining my husband's best respects by assuring you I ever am, my dear Lady Hamilton,' &c.\*

493. A. L. S. from Captain Ball to Lord Nelson. No date (September 5th, 1800). 1¼ pages 4to. Incomplete of the beginning. [P.]

'Colonel Fardillo, who commands the Neapolitan troops here, applied to sign the capitulation, but was refused. General Vaubois told Martin that his garrison have only consumed seven months' whole allowance of rations in two years. Your Lordship will read Captain Martin's account of the capture of *La Dianne*; we have great hopes *La Justice* will share the same fate.

'P.S. I have just received a letter from General Graham, who conducted the business of the capitulation, saying that General Vaubois objected to my signing as chief of the Maltese. Major-General Pigot and I conduct business with great harmony. I have not had the slightest reason to be dissatisfied with him, he is very reserved, but I think he is a very friendly man.'

494. A. L. S. from the same to the same. Dated Malta, September 27th, 1800. 5½ pages 4to., with Superscription and Seal. [P.]

'I had the pleasure of writing to your Lordship the 5th instant on the surrender of La Valetta, and sent copies of my correspondence with Major-General Pigot on the subject of my right to sign the capitulation, and my orders to hoist the colours of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem, both of which he would not allow, as his order from Sir R. Abercrombie directed the contrary. General Pigot has conducted himself towards me in a manner highly indelicate and unbecoming. I have been treated and considered as Chief or Governor of this island by your Lordship, Lord Keith, and Sir R. Abercrombie, but General Pigot in the first standing orders has placed me in rank below the Town-Major, who is a Captain in the army. I send you the printed articles respecting me. All the officers of the army have spoken with indignation of the treatment, and pay me the utmost respect and attention; I have not remonstrated with the General, but I believe he has been spoken to by Martin,† since which he has directed a guard to be turned out for me. I continue giving the General every aid, and do not allow his insult to affect the public operation, and I am sure that he is now

\* At this point a few lines in Italian are interpolated, written by the lady's husband, to the effect that he joins his thanks and best wishes to those of his amiable wife.

† Captain, afterwards Admiral Sir George Martin, G.C.B., 1764-1847, who entered the navy in 1776, and after serving in the West Indies took post rank in 1783; distinguished himself off Cape St. Vincent, and off Spain and Portugal, and in 1800 succeeded Troubridge in the command of the blockading squadron before Malta. He was made a Rear-Admiral in 1805, and was employed off the coast of Italy under Sir John Stuart. He was knighted in 1814, made G.C.B. and Admiral of the Blue in 1821, and Vice-Admiral of the United Kingdom in 1834.

satisfied that my assistance is absolutely necessary to him. We dine together, and keep up an apparent cordiality. I tell your Lordship in confidence, what in a short time will be publicly known, that the General is the most unpopular man that ever commanded a garrison. I have the satisfaction to acquaint your Lordship that the Maltese give me daily additional proofs of their confidence and obedience to my orders. A large party had shewn a disposition to punish the Jacobins in the manner they were treated at Naples, but there has not been the smallest irregularity committed. The people are happy and contented, and the English in general observe that La Valetta and its port are among the very few places which have exceeded their expectations, it is certainly a very interesting spot.

‘Honest Tyson is here, who will write to your Lordship. I hear Lord Keith is going to England, he is displeased with the Admiralty and has desired to be recalled, we all pray that your Lordship may succeed him. I long to hear of your arrival in England in good health, as I have been apprehensive that you would suffer from the land journey. I hope the welcome and grateful acclamations of the ministers and people of England, with the sight of your family, will restore your spirits and cheerfulness. I request your Lordship to indulge me with a line, telling me how your health is, I will not trouble you to say more, knowing how very much your time will be taken up.

‘Martin is here; Blackwood is going to Alexandria; Peard\* is waiting for orders. We have heard unfavourable reports of Sir William Hamilton’s health, which I hope you will be able to contradict; we hear that Lady Hamilton remains with the Queen at Vienna. I have not yet received orders from General Acton on the subject of the English colours hoisted here; but I hear he is highly offended at it. It has been insinuated that I stickle too much for the Sicilian interest because the Sicilian flag was hoisted at St Antoine, and because I have officially represented the orders I had from your Lordship on the subject of the colours; I am so truly disgusted, and am so sensible of the little recompense which I shall get for my anxious labours and loss of prize money, that I would have retired to my ship, were I not assured that there would have been a convulsion among the Maltese. Adieu, my dear Lord, may God ever bless and protect you, prays your,’ &c.

495. A. L. S. (in English) from the Marquis Belmonte to (Sir W. and Lady Hamilton). Dated St. Petersburg, October 13th, 1800.  
1 page 4to. [P.]

‘It is impossible to me to express how deeply my heart has been touched by your kind and affecting letter from Vienna. I am so indebted to you, and you deserve so much to be loved, that my gratitude and true and sincere friendship will last till to my tomb. God bless you in your long travel! My health and my wishes for your so well deserved happiness shall accompany you allways. I hope to hear, as soon as it is possible, that you are well, happy, and constantly *tria juncta in uno*.

‘My health is pretty well, notwithstanding the rigour of this climate. I long and hope to rejoin, in a couple of months, our great Queen.

‘Farewell, my dearest friends. I am for ever and heartily your,’ &c.

496. A. L. S. from M. de Pollion to Lord Nelson. Dated Altona, October 30th, 1800. 3 pages 4to. [P.]

‘Enhardi par la connoissance de Mr le Ch<sup>l</sup> de Boothby,† qui devoit me recommander à votre Excellence, attiré dans cette démarche par vos vertus bienfaisantes et généreuses, n’ayant à vous faire part que de malheur dûs à mon attachement inviolable pour mon Souverain, j’avois eu l’honneur de vous adresser, il y a quelque jours, et du fond de ma prison, un mémoire où je prenois la liberté de

\* Captain Shulldham Peard was made a Rear-Admiral in 1814, and died in 1832.

† Sir Brooke Boothby, 1743-1824, seventh Baronet. When young he mixed a good deal in the literary society of the day, and was the author of some works, both in prose and poetry.



dépeindre ma situation à Votre Excellence ; j'avois espéré dès lors que mes maux, et des maux que je n'avois point mérités, ne seroient pas sans remède.

'Sorti mardi passé de cet état d'arrestation que m'avoient valu des écrits en faveur de S. M. T. C. mon Souverain, je me trouve maintenant à Altona, perdant à Hamburg une place de plus de 100 Louis par an qui j'avois chez M<sup>r</sup> De Capadose.

'Qu'il m'eût été agréable d'y être aujourd'hui, et de partager avec cette respectable famille l'enthousiasme qu'y inspirera votre présence. Je sens pour la première fois l'horreur du décret qui m'a forcé de quitter Hamburg.

'Le Gouvernement Anglois, à qui l'on a fait parvenir la cause de mon arrestation et mon expulsion de Hamburg, m'a envoyé un passeport accompagné de la lettre la plus flatteuse et qui me promet, peut-être, un dédommagement des pertes que je fais ici.

'Mais je n'y perds plus rien, si votre Excellence me permet de compter sur sa protection, elle seule peut calmer toutes mes craintes pour l'avenir.

'J'ignore, malheureusement, quand mes moyens me permettront de quitter Altona pour aller en Angleterre, on n'est pas riche quand on sort de prison.

'Puisse Votre Excellence, touchée de ma situation et des foibles services que j'ai rendus à mon Roi, me notifier ses sentiments par M<sup>r</sup> le Ch<sup>r</sup> de Boothby ou par M<sup>r</sup> De Capadose, à l'Hotel de Dannemark à Altona, où je loge actuellement. J'ai l'honneur d'être,' &c.

497. A. L. S. from Charles Greville to Sir W. Hamilton. No date (November 9th, 1800). 2¼ pages 4to., with Superscription and Seal. [H.]

'It gives me great pleasure to hear that you are safely arrived.\* I went to town yesterday & this day on purpose to see you, and left my name at Nerot's, and I must have been hardly at home before you arrived. As it is near 9 o'clock & I have no carriage nearer than London, I do not think you would thank me for breaking in on you this evening. I will be with you at ½-past 10 to-morrow, when you will have breakfasted, and it will give me a good and seasonable time to converse with you. I think you do well to see L<sup>d</sup> Grenville, and you may send to his house in Cleveland Row to know if he is in town, and at any rate I think it would be right to endeavour to see him before the Levée, & you will have an audience.

'As to the house, I do not wish to bias your decision. If the offer is kind, & you are to be accommodated with the house as *your own* during your occupation, it is one thing, if you are a visitor it will be very different ; and to you, who know the world so well, it is not necessary to suggest anything on this point. After your Mayor's Feast I shall hope to see you quiet, for you must take care of yourself. I have been very unwell, & last week was almost a prisoner in my house ; but I am much better, & shall have nothing more on my mind than to prove my sincere gratitude & affection to you, & I trust you will be able to steer well at the beginning & lay the foundation of the future comfort of yourself & Lady H. I am sorry that my picture of the country will not prejudice you in favour of the change you will find in every respect. As, I think, you & I have much congenial in disposition, I hope we may easily concur in what suits the present moment, & I have not had you out of my thoughts for many months, & have waited the whole summer in town that I might not be out of the way when you arrived. My love to Lady Hamilton, and believe me,' &c.

498. A. L. S. from F. A. Fitz-Murray to Lady Hamilton. Dated Kent Road, November 17th, 1800. 2 pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'My heart bleeds at every pore at the time I write this. It was my intention to have solicited an interview, as I did with the Cæsar of y<sup>e</sup> age (Lord Nelson),

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\* Sir William and Lady Hamilton, Lord Nelson, and the Queen of Naples, left Palermo on the 9th of June, and arrived at Vienna early in August. Lord Nelson and the Hamiltons left Vienna, September 27th, and arrived at Yarmouth, *viâ* Prague, Dresden, and Hamburg, on November 6th, London being reached on the 9th.

but, Madam, my heart failed me in the attempt, and I hope your humanity will lead you to hear the bearer hereof in my behalf. He will explain to your Ladyship my sad situation—a situation indescribable, but which I would attempt to pourtray, were I not apprehensive it would take up too much of your time and hurt your fine sensibility. I will only, therefore, observe I am a son of y<sup>e</sup> late *Prince of Wales*. I have had enemies about His Majesty for 13 years, who have most shamefully misrepresented me, indeed, most wickedly so, but for that they will have to answer at some period. My distress at present is so great as to prevent my even resenting an insult unless personally offered in the street, when I might cane an injurer. I have, my Lady, been 30 years an officer; I have been 5 times wounded in this course of service, and as a reward for my services I am allowed a halfpay of £36 per annum to support ten in family.

‘Had not Lord Nelson given me 2 guineas on Thursday last I must now have been a corpse, in fact, I must with my children have been starved to death. Prince Augustus Frederick gave me 12 guineas, eight at one time and 5 at another, and I doubt not your Ladyship will in your great goodness assist a gentleman who most assuredly has deserved a better fate.

‘I beg your Ladyship to speak to Sir W<sup>m</sup> for me, and am,’ &c.

499. A. L. S. from Rev. Father Patrick Mulligan to Lord Nelson. Dated December 4th, 1800. 4 pages 4to. [P.]

‘Since I had the honour and fortune of your Lordship taking me under your paternal-like consideration, a tolerable share of the prosperity of this world has fallen to my lot. First, I have compleately justified my character and honour at the Court of Rome, then held at Padua, not without great respect and esteem has the Court considered me as having the happiness and honour of fighting under your most celebrated and renowned command. Many of the most venerable Cardinals and Archbishops of the Court have declared as thus, would to the Lord that we had your happiness, that is to fight under the invincible Lord Nelson, &c. &c. &c.

‘The Court, moreover, has given this decision so far as to write to Dr O’Reilly, Bishop of Armagh and Primate of all Ireland, that is to say *titular* in our Church of these parts, and informed said Primate that I have appealed to them and that the Court must pay attention to my reports as a man faithful and sincere to the higher powers, and moreover they have declared your Lordship’s testimony in favour of this assertion, as thus we say: *non sine gaudio et latitia ejus amorem Erga sublimiores potestatis inspeximus syngraphum invictissimi classi præfecti Nelson in ejus favorem vidimus, &c. &c.*

‘My journey from Palermo was favourable. The English Ambassadors were most friendly to me, especially Hugh Elliot at the Court of Dresden; the English Consuls at Venice and Hamburge proved most kind and friendly. Many a curious scene I should give you a detail of, only I wrote to Lady Hamilton from Prague, to whom I had related different passages of mine in Tuscany in time of the French. On the morning of the day I came into Florence the French have entered it. I knew nothing of it until M<sup>r</sup> Wyndham, the English Ambassador, told me of it; they have detained me two months at Florence. I daresay my Lady Hamilton might have shown you my letter to her from Prague in which I have related the entire.

‘When I came to London I applied for payment. I went first to your brother, he referred me to another officer, and sent a man with me. None would be made as not due at the time. I afterwards applied to Even Nepean, Esq., with a letter of introduction from the Bishop of Waterford.\* M<sup>r</sup> Nepean received me, but as payments could not be made me he gave me some money of his own to enable me to return to Ireland, &c.

‘Thanks and praise be to Almighty God, my connexions, friends, and acquaintances among the first class of this nation, are greater and more numerous than

\* Richard Maalay, 1727–1802, ‘an amiable, benevolent, and ingenious man,’ according to Malone. He was made Dean of Ferns in 1769, Bishop of Clonfert in 1787, whence he was translated to Waterford in 1795.



ever, principally on account of your Lordship, and being under your command, &c.

'In my Church I am in all priestly jurisdiction and power, which I attribute to your Lordship. May God bless and prosper you and your most noble family. If your Lordship should write to my Lady Hamilton tell her I am always thankful to her, mindfull of her, and never shall forget her. I wrote lately to the Queen of Naples' confessor, but got no answer as yet.

'I had a letter lately from Sir Antony O'Hara, who was Ambassador for the Court of Russia at Malta; he is well. He enquired of me if I had any account from your Lordship, but I had none except the account in our papers. I hope your Lordship may be kind and generous to me at present as usual, by honouring me so far as to vouchsafe or deign to send me a few lines to inform me of your state of health and prosperity, which are the most ardent wishes of your former marine soldier and am with due respect, esteem, and veneration,' &c.

500. A. L. S. (in English) from the Marquis de Niza to Lord Nelson.

Dated Lisbon, December 11th, 1800. 1 page 4to. [P.]

'I beg your pardon if I disturb you for a moment, but my sincere attachment to you does not permit me to be silent for longer time.

'I had, my dear friend, the greatest pleasure seeing in the public papers the brilliant manner in which you have been received in England. You deserve all that, and I am sure that your name, virtues, and quality, will be for ever respected in all parts of the globe. Believe me, my Lord, it is my heart which speaks and not the flattery, you do know me well to believe me, and I hope you will be persuaded of my sincere attachment with which I will be always,' &c.

501. A. L. S. (marked 'private') from Lord Spencer\* to Lord Nelson.

Dated January 21st, 1801. 1 page 4to. [P.]

'I only at present can acknowledge your letter of the 17th, express my satisfaction at your being again afloat.

'I shall be able soon to write on the subject of ships; but I can say thus far to-day upon it, that it is by no means in contemplation for you to be put into the *Windsor Castle*, which was only mentioned cursorily one day in conversation with Sir Hyde as being one of the three-deckers which draws the least water. The *Formidable* is not of that description. As to troops, you know the objections in the way, and they certainly appear to be insurmountable. Yours,' &c.

502. A. L. S. from Lord Nelson to Lady Hamilton. Dated January 25th, 1801. 2 pages 4to., with Superscription and Seal. [P.]

'If you'll believe me, nothing can give me so much pleasure as your truly kind and friendly letters, and where friendship is of so strong a cast as ours, it is no easy matter to shake it—mine is as fixed as Mount Etna, and as warm in the inside as that mountain. The *Audacious*, Gould, will be paid off to-morrow, and he bears the talking of Miss Knight with good humour. He has inquired where she lives. He is not grown much wiser since we left him, or he never would have wished to leave such a ship and ship's company. I am quite vexed not to have orders for completing the *San Josef's* complement of men, or to proceed to sea, therefore I shall certainly not be at Torbay on Wednesday. I shall write to Troubridge this day to send me your letter, which I look for as constantly and with more anxiety than my dinner. [Let her go to Briton or where she pleases, I care not; she is a great fool, and, thank God! you are not the least bit like her. I delivered poor M<sup>rs</sup> Thomson's† note; her friend is truly thankful for her kindness and your goodness. Who does not admire your benevolent heart. Poor man! he is very anxious, and begs you will, if she is not able, write a line just to comfort him. He appears to me to feel very much her situation;

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\* Lord Spencer was at that time First Lord of the Admiralty.

† This is the first mention of Lady Hamilton under this name.

he is so agitated, and will be so for 2 or 3 days, that he says he cannot write, and that I must send his kind love and affectionate regards.] What dreadful weather we have got : a deep snow. I wish I was just setting off for Bronté. I should then be happy. As I cannot now sail before Thursday, you may direct your letter on Tuesday to me at Plymouth, and if ever so ready will not sail till the post is arrived. On Wednesday direct to Brixham as I mentioned before, and believe me as ever, your obliged, attached, & most affectionate friend,' &c.

'My brother is as vexed as I am, and fears he shall lose his trip to Torbay. I should have lived on board before, but, as the ship will be paid to-morrow, I hope to get on board on Tuesday. I hate Plymouth. I shall write every day.'\*

503. A. L. S. from the same to the same. Dated January 26th, 1801.

3 pages 4to., with Superscription and Seal. [P.]

'When I consider that this day nine months was your birthday, and that although we had a gale of wind, yet I was happy, and sung *Come Cheer up Fair Emma*,† &c. Even the thoughts compared with this day makes me melancholy, my heart somehow is sunk within me. I long to hear you are well [keep up your spirits, all will end well], the dearest of friends must part, and we only part, I trust, to meet again. [I own I wonder that Sir W<sup>m</sup> should have a wish for the Prince of Wales to come under your roof; no good can come from it, but every harm. You are too beautiful not to have enemies, and even one visit will stamp you as his *chère amie*, and we know he is dotingly fond of such women as yourself, and is without one (spark?) of honour in those respects, and would leave you to bewail your folly. But, my dear friend, I know you too well not to be convinced you cannot be seduced by any prince in Europe. You are, in my opinion, the pattern of perfection.]

'I have no orders, and can have none before Wednesday, therefore sooner than Thursday or Friday the ship cannot move. I have told my brother of your intentions of giving him a paste. [He would have had a hard matter to get one of mine.] He proposes, if no orders arrive very soon, to leave me, when I shall instantly return on board. I feel no loss in not going to these balls and assemblies. My thoughts are very differently engaged. I know nothing of my destination more than I did when in London, but the papers and reports of my being put in

\* Many of Nelson's letters to Lady Hamilton from this period until his death are partially published in Pettigrew's *Life of Nelson*. The portions not published by Pettigrew are enclosed in square brackets. It will be noted that they are generally the most interesting.

† He refers to the following verses composed by Miss Knight during the journey from Italy to England :—

'Come, cheer up, fair Emma, forget all thy grief,  
For thy shipmates are brave, and a hero's their chief;  
Look round on these trophies, the pride of the Main,  
They were snatched by their valour from Gallia and Spain.  
Chorus—Hearts of oak, &c.

'Behold yonder fragment, 'tis sacred to fame,  
'Mid the waves of old Nile it was saved from the flame :  
The flame that destroyed all the glories of France,  
When Providence vanquished the friends of blind chance.  
Hearts of oak, &c.

'These arms the *San Joseph* once claimed as her own,  
Ere Nelson and Britons her pride had o'erthrown ;  
That plume too evinces that still they excel,  
It was torn from the cap of the famed *William Tell*.  
Hearts of oak, &c.

'Then, cheer up, fair Emma ! remember thou'rt free,  
And ploughing Britannia's old empire—the sea :  
How many in Albion each sorrow would check,  
Could they kiss but one plank of this conquering deck.  
Hearts of oak, &c.'



a bad ship which, although I can hardly credit, fills me with sorrow, which, joined to my private feelings, makes me this day ready to burst every moment into tears. I will try and write to the Duke\* to-morrow; this day I could not if millions lay in my way. Mrs Thomson's friend is this moment come into my room. He desires me to thank you for your goodness to his friend. He appears almost as miserable as myself. He says you have always been kind to his dear Mrs Thomson, and he hopes you will continue your goodness to her on this trying occasion. I have assured him of your innate worth and affectionate disposition, and believe, as ever and for ever, your,' &c.

'My best respects to Sir William, Mrs Denis, &c. &c.'

504. A. L. S. from the same to the same. Dated *San Josef*, Torbay, February 1st, 1801. 3 pages 4to., with Superscription and Seal. [P].

'I believe poor dear Mrs Thomson's friend will go mad with joy. He cries, prays, and performs all tricks, yet dare not show all or any of his feelings, but he has only me to consult with. He swears he will drink your health this day in a bumper, and damn me if I don't join him in spite of all the doctors in Europe, for none regard you with truer affection than myself. You are a dear, good creature, and your kindness and attention to poor Mrs T. stamps you higher than ever in my mind. I cannot write, I am so agitated by this young man at my elbow. I believe he is foolish; he does nothing but rave about you & her. I own I participate of his joy and cannot write anything.†

'The *San Josef* left Plymouth yesterday at 1 o'clock, and anchored here at 8 this morning, where I found an order to hoist my flag in the *St. George*, as Lord Spencer says I must go forth as the Champion of England in the North, and my *San Josef* is to be held by Captain Wolseley,‡ of the *St. George*, till my return, when I hope to have a knock at the Republicans. In this instance they have behaved handsomely—could not be better. I trust I shall soon be at Portsmouth, and every endeavour of mine shall be used to come to town for three days, and perhaps you and Sir William may like to see Portsmouth. Captain Darby is just come in; he desires me to say everything which is kind, and that he wishes he could see you instead of your picture, which I have handsomely framed and glazed. The post is waiting, and I have been two hours pulling from Lord St Vincent's house. It is blowing fresh. May the heavens bless you and yours, is the fervent prayer of your unalterable and faithful,' &c.

'Best regards to Sir William. Instead of under cover, direct as follows:—Lord Nelson, &c. &c., to the care of Sir Thomas Troubridge, Bart., Brixham, Devon, which will give them to me four hours sooner.'

505. A. L. S. from the same to the same. No date (February 3rd, 1801). 2 pages 8vo., with Superscription to 'Mrs. Thomson.' [P.]

'Your good and dear friend, does not think it proper at present to write with his own hand [but he hopes the time may not be far distant when he may be united for ever to the object of his wishes, his only, *only* love. He swears before heaven that he will marry you as soon as it is possible, which he fervently prays

\* The Duke of Queensberry.

† The part of the letter ending here refers without doubt to the birth of Horatia, which must have taken place between January 29th and 31st. So much has been written on the vexed question of Horatia's parentage, that the letters of this date will prove to be of the greatest interest and importance; for no one can read them without being overwhelmingly convinced that she was the child of Lady Hamilton and Lord Nelson. She lived with Lady Hamilton until the death of the latter, married, in 1823, the Rev. Philip Ward, afterwards Vicar of Tenterden, and died in 1881.

‡ William Wolseley obtained post-rank in 1782, served under Lord Hood in the Mediterranean, went with Commodore Tinzell's squadron to co-operate with Paoli in the reduction of Corsica, and accompanied Sir Borlase Warren in the expedition against the French coast. He afterwards commanded the *St. George*, and then the *San Josef*. He became a Rear-Admiral in 1804, Vice-Admiral in 1809, and a full Admiral in 1819. He died in 1842.

may be soon]. He charges me to say how dear you are to him, and that you must, every opportunity, kiss and bless for him his dear little girl, which he wishes to be called Emma, out of gratitude to our dear, good Lady Hamilton; but in either its from Lord N. he says, or Lady H., he leaves to your judgment and choice. I have given Lord N. a hundred pounds this morning, for which he will give Lady Hamilton an order on his agents; and I beg that you will distribute it amongst those who have been useful to you on the late occasion; and your friend, my dear M<sup>rs</sup> Thomson, may be sure of my care of him and his interest, which I consider as dearly as my own, and do you believe me ever,' &c.

'Lady Hamilton must desire at the back for it to be paid to the person who carries it.'

506. Document, dated February 4th (1801). 3 pages. [H.]

A deed of assignment by Sir W. Hamilton to Mr. Alexander Davison, in trust for Lady Hamilton, of the furniture and other contents of the house, No. 23 Piccadilly.

507. A. L. S. from Lord Nelson to Lady Hamilton. Dated *San Josef*, February 4th, 1801. 2½ pages 4to., with Superscription and Seal.

'It blows so very hard that I doubt if it will be possible to get a boat on shore, either to receive or send letters, but if it moderates in time for the post of course mine shall go, and I hope from my heart to hear you are better, and it has made my head ache stooping so much, as I have been making memorandums for my will, and, having regularly signed it, if was to die this moment I believe it would hold good. If I am not able to send it, as far as relates to you, this day, I will to-morrow. I have been obliged to be more particular than I would, as a wife can have nothing, and it might be taken from you by will or the heirs of your husband. If you disapprove of any part say so and I will alter it, but I think you must approve; I have done my best that you should. I shall now go to work and save a fortune. Say, shall I bequeath the £2000 owing me from Sir William for the same purpose. You must keep this letter till you receive a copy of my mem<sup>o</sup>. What a pretty piece of history letting out the French squadron. I was laughed (at) by some wiseacres in power when I said, if I was a French Admiral I would come out in spite of all the English fleet, as they kept close into Brest, and I would be outside of them before morning.

'Your dear, kind letters of Monday are just come on board in a shore boat, and I shall try and get mine ashore, but it is barely possible. [Sir William should say to the Prince that, situated as you are, it would be highly improper for you to admit H. R. H. That the Prince should wish it I am not surprized at, and that he will attempt every means to get into your house and into any place where you may dine. Sir W<sup>m</sup> should speak out, and if the Prince is a man of honour he will quit the pursuit of you. I know his aim is to have you for a mistress. The thought so agitates me that I cannot write. I had wrote a few lines last night, but I am in tears, I cannot bear it. Tell M<sup>rs</sup> T. her friend is grateful for her goodness,] and with my kindest regards to M<sup>rs</sup> Jenkins and Horatia,\* and ever believe me your sincere, faithful, and affectionate,' &c.

'We drink your health every day. Believe me, your letter cannot be too long or too minute of all particulars. My mind is a little easier having perfect confidence. Make my respects to Sir W<sup>m</sup>, the Duke, & LORD W<sup>m</sup> GORDON.†

508. A. L. S. from the same to the same. No date (February 5th, 1801). 1¾ pages 8vo., with Superscription to 'Mrs. Thompson.' [P.]

'Your dear and excellent friend has desired me to say that it is not usual to christen children till they are a month or six weeks old; and as Lord Nelson will probably be in town, as well as myself, before we go to the Baltic, he proposes

\* 'Kindest regards' to a baby of a week old strikes one as a little curious.

† Lord William Gordon was the second son of Cosmo, 3rd Duke of Huntly, and was Deputy-Ranger of St. James's Park. He died in 1823.



then, if you approve, to christen the child, and that myself and Lady Hamilton should be two of the sponsors. It can be christened at St George's, Hanover Square ; and, I believe, the parents being at the time out of the kingdom, if it is necessary, it can be stated born at Portsmouth or at sea. Its name will be Horatia, daughter of Johem and Morata Etnorb. If you read the surname backwards, and take the letters of the other names, it will make, very extraordinary, the names of your real and affectionate friends, Lady Hamilton and myself ; but, my dear friend, consult Lady Hamilton. Your friend consults me, and I would not lead him wrong for the world ; he has not been very well : I believe he has fretted, but his spirit is too high to own it. But, my dear Madam, both him, you, and your little one, must always believe me your affectionate,' &c.

'The child, if you like it, can be named by any clergyman without its going to church.'

509. A. L. S. from the same to the same. Dated *San Josef*, February 6th, 1801. 3 pages 4to., with Superscription and Seal.

'It blows a gale of wind, but which only affects me as it may deprive me of my dearest, most honored friend's letters. *Your letters are to me gazettes*, for as yet I have not fixed upon any, nor can they be half so interesting to my feelings, although you know I am not a little fond of a newspaper, and we have almost quarrelled for a first reading, and I trust the time will soon arrive when we shall have those *amicable squabbles again*. I am now of course very much by myself, for none ever come to me except at meals, or I send for either Hardy or Parker,\* and they are both so modest and well behaved that it is really a pleasure to have them on board. Parker boasts whenever he drinks your health, which is at least once a day, that he had the honour of being your aid de camp, and that he has given many messages by your orders. Ah ! those were happy times. Would to God we were at this moment in the Bay of Naples, and all matters for those good monarchs going on as well as it did at that time.

'Noon. This moment has brought me your two kind letters. You may rely I shall not open my mouth on poor dear Mrs Thomson's business to any creature on this earth. You and I should be very unworthy if we did any such thing, as all the secret of those two people rests solely in our bosoms. He desires me to say that he approves very much of the sum of money, and submits it to your *discretion if a small pension* should not be promised if the secret is well kept, but desires that nothing should be given under handwriting. He also desires you will now and then give the nurse an additional guinea. He thinks it might be better to omit xtening the child for the present, and even privately baptising it. The clergyman *would naturally* ask its parents' name which would put poor Mrs T. in trouble or cause suspicion, but in all these matters he submits himself to your prudence and friendship. He will send you more money as Mrs T. wants it, only let him know everything. He says, poor fellow, he would have given anything to have seen the child, especially in your charming company. To say the truth, this lad seems to love you not a little ; but who does not ; I am sure I do. Cap<sup>t</sup> William's nephew conducts himself very well, and I shall take him into the *St. George* with me, for which ship Cap<sup>t</sup> Hardy has got his commission, but she is still at Portsmouth.

'Saturday noon. Mr Davison came while I was at dinner yesterday and gave me your letters. He says you are grown thinner, but he thinks you look handsomer than ever. I know he is a very great admirer of yours. He says you told him to tell me not to send you any more advice about seeing comp<sup>y</sup>, for that you are determined not to allow the world to say a word ag<sup>t</sup> you, therefore I will not say a word ; I rest confident in your conduct. [I was sure you would not go to Mrs Walpole's, it is no better than a bawdy house.] This morning brought me your letter of Thursday. I am sorry for all your trouble, but poor Mrs Thompson's friend will never forget the obligation. Ever, my dear Lady, your's,' &c.

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\* Captain Edward Thornborough Parker was shot in the thigh in the engagement off Boulogne, August 16th, and died September 27th, 1801.

510. A. L. S. 'N. & B.' from the same to the same ('Mrs. Thomson').

No date (February 6th, 1801). 1 page 8vo. [P.]

'Your good friend is very much obliged by your kind present of this morning; it is very like what I remember his. He has put it in a case with his dear mother's—for I almost love you as much as he does. He is sorry for the trouble you have had about the nurse, but he says children bring their cares and pleasures with them; but, however, you will rely on Lady Hamilton, her goodness and good advice cannot be too closely followed; she is the pattern I wish you to imitate. Respecting the naming and christening of the child, he wrote to Lady Hamilton yesterday. He hopes to get leave for three days to come to town when the ship gets to Portsmouth. Ever your,' &c.

511. A. L. S. from the same to the same. No date (February 8th, 1801).

1 page 4to., with Superscription and Seal. [P.]

'Mr Davison will deliver this letter and its enclosure. He is very good and kind to me, and perhaps I can never repay the great and heavy obligation I owe him; but if it pleases God that I should retire into the country, I should not want a carriage, for I can walk, and my affairs would soon arrange themselves. I do not think I ever was so miserable as this moment. I own I sometimes fear that you will not be so true to me as I am to you, yet I cannot, will not believe you can be false. No, I judge you by myself; I hope to be dead before that should happen, but it will not. Forgive me, Emma, oh, forgive your own dear, disinterested Nelson. Tell Davison how sensible I am of his goodness; he knows my attachment to you, and I suspect he admires you himself. I cannot express my feelings. May God send me happiness. I have a letter from Sir William; he speaks of the Regency as certain, and then probably he thinks you will sell better—horrid thought. Only believe me for ever your,' &c.

512. A. L. from the same to the same. No date (1801). 1 page 4to. [P.]

'I may not be able to write to you to-morrow, but thou art present ever to my eyes. I see, hear, no one else. Parker sits next me to cut my meat when I want it done. May God send us a happy meeting. I am writing in a room full of interruption, therefore give me credit for my thoughts. You can guess them; they are, I trust, like your own.'

513. A. L. S. from the same to the same. No date (1801). 1 page 8vo., with Superscription to 'Mrs. Thomson.' [P.]

'Your dear friend, my dear and truly beloved M<sup>rs</sup> T., is almost distracted; he wishes there was peace, or that if your uncle would die, he would instantly then come and marry you, for he doats on nothing but you and his child; and, as it is my godchild, I desire you will take great care of it. He has implicit faith in your fidelity, even in conversation with those he dislikes, and that you will be faithful in greater things he has no doubt. May God bless you both & send you a happy meeting is the wish of yours,' &c.

514. A. L. S. from the same to the same. Dated 'February 11<sup>th</sup>, 3 o'clock' (1801). 2 pages 4to., with Superscription and Seal. [P.]

'Well, my dear friend, I only wish you could read my heart, then, I am sure, you would not write, or even think a hard thing of me. Suppose I did say that the West-country women wore black stockings, what is it more than if you was to say what puppies all the present young men are? You cannot help your eyes, and God knows I cannot see much. Only *don't admire*, you may detest as much as you please. I am glad you have found out M<sup>rs</sup> Kelly is so handsome; in that case you will give me credit for never going to make her a visit, but, to say the



truth, I think her quite the contrary : red hair, short, very fair, I believe, but her face beplastered with red.

‘Respecting Kingsmill’s friend, I declare solemnly that I know not if is man or woman, and could never bear the smallest idea of taking her out to the West Indies. It is now 17 years since I have seen her. I have no secrets, and never had but one, only one, love in my life, and damn me, if I lose her, if ever I will have another, for, let me be ever so much on my guard, she never can be content with me. Few women, my dear Lady, have your sense to make a good selection, and to be sure of your choice, to have implicit confidence in him, and that he is more particular in your absence than in your presence. I am sorry Mr Pitt is out. I think him the greatest minister this country ever had, and the honestest man. With every affectionate wish, believe me for ever your attached and affectionate,’ &c.

‘It blows a gale of wind and very heavy sea.

‘If you see Mrs Thomson, say her friend has been a little fretted at her nonsense, but is better, as he is sure it can only proceed from her affection for him, but he desires me to beg of you to tell her never to harbour a doubt of his fidelity, for that will make him doubt her, and to spit in the face of any one who speaks disrespect of him. Give my godchild a kiss and blessing for me.’

515. A. L. S. from the same to the same. Dated ‘Friday night, 9 o’clock’ (February 14th, 1801). 3½ pages 4to., with Superscription and Seal. [P.]

[‘I remember your story of that Mr Hodges at Naples, how he used to get suppers at this place and the other and pay for them on purpose for your company, but I feel confident you will never admit him to any of your parties. As for the P. of W., I know his character, and my confidence is firm as a rock till you try to irritate me to say hard things, that you may have the pleasure of scolding me ; but recollect it must remain 4 days before it can be made up, not, as before, in happy times, 4 minutes. Consider, my dear friend, what you ought to say if I did not fire at your scolding letters, and suppose me, if it is possible for a mom<sup>t</sup>, answering your scolds with a joke. I know I should fire if I thought that of you, that you was indifferent ; but firing like the devil with vexation, anger, and retorting, can only proceed from conscious innocence. I defy the malice of any one, and my mind is as pure as my actions.] I never intend, if I can help it, to set my foot out of the ship, but she is so compleatly uncomfortable you can have no conception how miserable she is. By Hardy’s account he has been on board two days endeavouring to make my place a little decent, but it is neither wind or water tight, but I shall religiously stay on board, as you like me to do so, and I have no other pleasure. I cannot get on board, it blows so very hard and a heavy sea ; all our topmasts struck, and everything as close as possible. The boat which went to Brixham cannot get off, therefore, if your letters had not been directed to Sir T. T. I should not have had them. [I had a letter from Mr Davison to tell me he had delivered my letter—can you ever scold me again? Recollect the answer to this letter is to be marked No. 1, therefore turn over a new leaf. Only rest quiet, you know that everything is arraigned in my head for all circumstances. You ought to know that I have a head to plan and an heart to execute whenever it is right and the time arrives. That person\* has her separate maintenance. Let us be happy, that is in our power. Do you know how I am amusing myself this evening? Troubridge is gone to bed, and I am alone with all your letters except the cruel one, that is burnt, and I have scratched out all the scolding words, and have read them 40 times over, and if you were to see how much better & prettier they read I am sure you would never write another scolding word to me. You would laugh to see my truly innocent amusement, therefore, again I entreat you never to scold me, for I have NEVER deserved it from you, you know.] Troubridge is my guest during the absence of the *Ville de Paris*. He always says, “now comes the fourth & old toast, all our friends—the King—success to the

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\* Lady Nelson.

fleet, and, though last not least, Lady Hamilton." Then they all do as they please. I am certainly much better for leaving off wine; I drink nothing but water at dinner, and a little wine and water after dinner. I believe it has saved me from illness. The smell of the paint is gone.

[‘Pray tell me if Mr Nepean sent you directly my letter & Troubridge’s; they were both under the same cover, and directed by Troubridge. Good night, and good night. I could say it till to-morrow. I wish I were with you; that time shall come. May the Heavens bless you, good night! Guess what my feelings and thoughts are. Ever for ever your attached,’ &c.

‘Sir Isaac Heard\* has behaved very ill to me, for half a farthing I would advertize him.]

516. A. L. S. from the same to the same. Dated ‘Monday night, 9 o’clock’ (February 17<sup>th</sup>, 1801). 3½ pages 4to., with Super-  
scription and Seal.

‘My dearest friend, I have read all your letters over and over. My brother has a bluntness and a want of fine feelings which we are not used to; but he means nothing. I dare say somebody had told him in the street a squadron of seven sail had gone after the enemy, and they naturally concluded I was sent. To say the truth, had I been Lord Spencer, I should have detached one Nelson as a much more likely man to come up with the enemy, and to beat them, than the man they have sent—Sir Robert Calder;† but I am destined for the North, unless the Mediterranean command should become vacant, in that case I should realize a fortune, gain honour, and if you came out, not return to England for some years; but Lord Keith, I believe, loves the good things on that station too well. Supposing that was to happen, which is not likely, I would take an oath never to sleep out of the ship, unless absolutely forced by the impossibility of getting on board, but at present there is no prospect of my getting money. [To the W. Indies I would not go, or to the East, was it offered me to-morrow, altho’ it is a sure fortune, for I never would be far from you in case my presence should be necessary.] Our friend Troubridge is to be a Lord of the Admiralty, and I have a sharp eye, and almost think I see it. No, poor fellow, I hope I do him injustice; he cannot surely forget my kindness to him. When I am at sea I shall send my packets through him. Whenever I get to Portsmouth, I shall ask for three days’ leave of absence; but time must be allowed for the answer; and if another Admiral is arrived to take the charge of the ships, which may be assembled. [But at the worst my dear friend can find a very good excuse to come and see me, altho’ it would not be half so satisfactory as my going to see you in London. You cannot think how I long for our little innocent plan to be put in execution. I cannot account for your receiving 5 letters in one day, it is beyond my comprehension. It may be some irregularity in the post-office here, or the carelessness of the midshipman sent to put them in the office. Yours always come perfectly regular to the time they are wrote. One is lost clearly, but I can hardly think by any body near you. It has been in some post-office *out of curiosity*; this is my opinion, but God only knows. It is now got very moderate, but recollect if a gale of wind comes from the East to South no boat can live in Torbay. Ah! my dear friend, I did remember well the 12<sup>th</sup> February, and also the two months afterwards. I shall never forget them, and never be sorry for the conse-

\* Sir Isaac Heard, 1730–1822, Garter King of Arms. After serving in the navy he entered into mercantile pursuits, was introduced to the Earl of Effingham, who, noticing his liking for antiquarian research, appointed him Blue-Mantle in 1759. He became in succession Lancaster Herald, Norroy King of Arms, Brunswick Herald, Clarenceux King of Arms, and finally, in 1784, Garter King of Arms. Nelson is referring to his differences with Sir Isaac on the subject of the fees due from him for the honours which had been bestowed upon him, and which Nelson objected to pay.

† Sir Robert Calder, 1745–1818, entered the navy in 1759, became a Post-captain in 1780, fought under Sir John Jervis in 1797, and conveying home dispatches was knighted. He attained the rank of Rear-Admiral of the Blue in 1799, in 1810 succeeded Admiral Young as Commander-in-Chief at Plymouth, and died Admiral of the White.



quences. Say whatever you please to Mr Denis for me, for I fear saying too much. I admire what you say of my godchild. If it is like its mother it will be very handsome, for I think her one, aye the most beautiful, woman of the age. Now do not be angry at my praising this dear child's mother, for I have heard people say she is very like you. My dear friend, you will, I hope, never receive any more cross letters, but always ought to be wrote by, my dear lady, your obliged, unaltered, attached, and faithful,' &c.

'I would steal white bread sooner than my godchild should want.']

517. A. L. S. from Louis Dutens to (Alexander Davison). Dated 119 Mount Street, Berkeley Square, February 17th, 1801. 1 page 4to. [H.]

'I did myself the honour to wait on you to deliver to you a deed signed by Sir William Hamilton, declaring that all the furniture now in his house belongs to Lady Hamilton.

'As it was not convenient for Sir William to buy the furniture, plate, &c., necessary to them, Lady Hamilton sold her diamonds for that purpose, & Sir William thought it a justice due to her to execute the deed which accompanies this, & desired me to have it drawn up, and I suppose he told you he had appointed you as trustee for Lady Hamilton in this particular case.

'Under the uncertainty of finding you at home, I write this to inform you, sir, of the purport of my visit, and I leave the deed with your servant, asking it as a favour to acknowledge the receipt of it.

'I have the honour to be,' &c.

518. A. L. S. from Lord Nelson to Lady Hamilton. Dated *San Josef*, February (17th), 1801. 3 pages 4to., with Superscription and Seal. [P.]

'I am so agitated that I can write nothing. I knew it would be so, and you can't help it. Why did you not tell Sir William? Your character will be gone. Do not have him *en famille*, the more the better. Do not sit long at table. Good God! he will be next you, and telling you soft things. If he does, tell it out at table, and turn him out of the house. Do not sit long. If you sing a song, I know you cannot help it, do not let him sit next you, but at dinner he will hob glasses with you. I cannot write to Sir W<sup>m</sup>, but he ought to go to the Prince and not suffer your character to be ruined by him. Oh, God, that I was dead! But I do not, my dearest Emma, blame you, nor do I fear your inconstancy. I tremble, and God knows how I write. Can nothing be thought of? I am gone almost mad, but you cannot help it. It will be in all the newspapers with hints. Recollect what the villain said to Mr Nisbet, *how you hit his fancy*. I am mad, almost dead, but ever for ever yours to the last moment, your, only your,' &c.

'I could not write another line if I was to be made king. If I was in town, nothing should make me dine with you that damned day, but, my dear Emma, I do not blame you, only remember your poor miserable friend, that you must be singing & appear gay. I shall that day have no one to dinner; it shall be a fast day to me. He will put his foot near you. I pity you from my soul, as I feel confident you wish him in hell. Have plenty of people, and do not [say] a word you can help to him. He wishes, I dare say, to have you alone. Don't let him touch, nor yet sitt next you; if he comes, get up. God strike him blind if he looks at you—this is high treason, and you may get me hanged by revealing it. Oh, God! that I were. I have read your letter, your resolution never to go where the fellow is, but you must have him at home. Oh, God! but you cannot, I suppose, help it, and you cannot turn him out of your own house. He will stay & sup and sitt up till 4 in the morning, & the fewer that stay the better. Oh, God! why do I live? But I do not blame you; it is my misfortune. I feel nobody uses me ill. I am only fit to be second, or third, or 4, or to black shoes. I want no better part than I have. I see your determination to be on your guard, and

am as fixed as fate. If you'll believe me, don't scold me ; I am more dead than alive, to the last breath yours. If you cannot get rid of this I hope you will tell Sir William never to bring the fellow again.

'I send a note for M<sup>rs</sup> T.'

519. A. L. S. to (the same). No date. 1 page 4to., with Superscription  
'M<sup>rs</sup> Thomson, to the care of Lady Hamilton.' [P.]

'Your most dear friend desires me to say that he sincerely feels for you, and that if your uncle is so hard hearted as to oblige you to quit his house, that he will instantly quit all the world and its greatness to live with you a domestic, quiet life. Lady Hamilton will always give you good advice, and you will always find an affectionate friend in your,' &c.

'Love to my godchild.'

520. A. L. S. from the same to the same. Dated 'Wednesday night'  
(February 18th, 1801). 3 pages 4to. [P.]

'Tis not that I believe you will do anything that injures me that I cannot help saying a few words on that fellow's dining with you, for you do not believe it is out of love for Sir William. No, you know the contrary, that his design is upon you. No ! that I will never believe, but you have been taken in. You that are such a woman of good sence, put so often on your guard by myself, M<sup>rs</sup> Udney, M<sup>rs</sup> Spilsbury, M<sup>rs</sup> Dent, & M<sup>r</sup> Nisbet. You that have declared only that very morning that you where upon your guard. What shall we say if a poor foolish woman had been so cajoled ? I knew that he would visit you, and you could not help coming downstairs when the P. was there, and notwithstanding all your declarations never to meet him, to receive him, *and by his own invitation, en famille*. But his words are so charming that, I am told, no person can withstand them. If I had been worth 10 millions I would have betted every farthing that you would not have gone into the house knowing he was there, and if you did, which I would not have believed, that you would have sent him a proper message by Sir William and sent him to hell. And, knowing your determined courage when you had got down, I would have laid my head upon the block with the axe uplifted and said strike, if Emma does not say to Sir William before the fellow, "My character cannot, shall not suffer by permitting him to visit." Oh ! I wish I had been so placed then and there, then my head, my distracted head must have been off. Hush, hush, my poor heart, keep in my breast, be calm. Emma is true ! But no one, not even Emma, could resist the serpent's flattering tongue, & knowing that Emma suits him, that even a stranger would not invite her to meet the fellow, what will they all SAY and think, that Emma is like other women, when I would have killed anybody who had said so, must now *hang* down my head and admit it. Forgive me. I know I am almost distracted, but I have still sense enough left to burn every word of yours. Therefore, if I should be worse, which is likely, I have not a paper. All your pictures are before me. What will M<sup>rs</sup> Denis say, and what will she sing—*Be Calm, be Gentle, the Wind has Changed?* Do you go to the Opera to-night ? They tell me he sings well. I have eat nothing but a little rice and drank water ; but forgive me, I know my Emma, and don't forget that you had once a Nelson, a friend, a dear friend, but, alas ! he has his misfortunes. He has lost the best, his only friend, his only love. Don't forget him, poor fellow ! he is honest. Oh ! I could thunder and strike dead with my lightning. I dreamt it last night, my Emma. I am calmer ; reason, I hope, will resume her place, please God. Tears have relieved me ; you never will again receive the villain to rob me. But I will be calm & trust to Providence ; but what will all the world say ? Do modest women receive him ? You nor I think so. May the heavens bless you ! I am better. Only tell me you forgive me ; don't scold me, indeed, I am not worth it, and am to my last breath yours, and, if not yours, no one's in this world. Ever yours,' &c.

'You cannot now help the villain's dining with you. Get rid of it as well as you can. Do not let him come downstairs with you or hand you up.

'*If you do*, tell me, & then.'



521. A. L. S. from the same to the same. Dated *St. George*, February 19th, 1801. 3 pages 4to., with Superscription and Seal. [P.]

['Forgive my letter wrote and sent last night, perhaps my head was a little affected. No wonder, it was such an unexpected, such a knock-down blow, such a death. But I will not go on, for I shall get out of my senses again. Will you sing for the fellow, *The Prince, unable to Conceal His Pain*, &c.? No, you will not. I will say no more for fear of my head. It was so good of you to send to thank Mr Nisbet for his not asking you to meet the fellow, as he knew his vile intent, and yet, the same morning to let him come and dine with you *en famille*!—but I know it was not my Emma; Sir William always asks all partys to dinner. I forgive you. Forgive, I beseech, your old and dear friend! Tell me all, every word, that passes. He will propose if you—no, you will not try; he is Sir W<sup>m</sup>'s guest.

'Thursday.—I have just got your letter, and I live again. Do NOT let the lyar come. I never saw him but once, the 4th day after I came to London, and he never mentioned your name. May God blast him! Be firm! Go and dine with M<sup>rs</sup> Denis on Sunday. Do not, I beseech you, risk being at home. Does Sir William want you to be a whore to the rascal? Forgive all my letter; you will see what I feel, and have felt. I have eat not a morsel, except a little rice, since yesterday morning, and till I know how this matter is gone off. But I feel confident of your resolution, and thank you 1,000,000 of times. I write you a letter, which may be said as coming from me if you like, I will endeavour to word it properly. Did you sit alone with the villain for a moment? *No, I will not believe it!* Oh, God! oh, God! keep my senses. Do not let the rascal in. Tell the Duke that you will never go to his house. Mr G. must be a scoundrel; he treated you once ill enough, & cannot love you, or he would sooner die. Ever for ever, aye for ever, your,' &c.]

'I have this moment got my orders to put myself under Sir Hyde Parker's orders, and suppose I shall be ordered to Portsmouth to-morrow or next day, & then I will try & get to London for 3 days. [May Heaven bless us! but do not let that fellow dine with you. Don't write here after you receive this, I shall be gone. You can, in Sir W<sup>m</sup>'s name, write a note to Sir H. Parker, asking if the S<sup>t</sup> George is ordered to Spithead. If so, write to Portsmouth desiring my letters to be left at the Post Office till the ship's arrival.]

'*Forgive every cross word, I now live.*]

522. A. L. S. from the same to the same. Dated '*St. George*, Thursday night' (February 19th, 1801). 3 pages 4to., with Superscription and Seal. [P.]

'Here I am, fixed in my new habitation, which it is my firm intention never to sleep out of, except from dire necessity, till the campaign is over, except when I may get three days' leave to go to London to settle many of my private affairs, and I hardly think it will be refused me. [Your good sense, judgment, and proper firmness, must endear you to all your friends, and to none more than your old & firm friend, Nelson. You have shown that you are above all temptation, and not to be drawn into the paths of dishonour for to gratify any pride or to gain any riches. How Sir William can associate with a person of a character so diametrically opposite to his own, but I do not choose, as this letter goes through many hands, to enter more at large on this subject. I glory in your conduct and in your inestimable friendship, and good Sir William, when he reflects, must admire your virtuous & proper conduct. I wish you were my sister, that I might instantly give you half my fortune for your glorious conduct. Be firm! Your cause is that of honor against infamy. May the Heavens bless you, and let no consideration suffer you to alter your virtuous and sensible resolution. Pardon all this from an old and interested friend. You know I would not in Sir William's case have gone to Court without my wife, and such a wife, never to be matched. It is true you would grace a Court better as a Queen than a visitor. 11 o'clock, Friday.] I have this moment my orders to go to Portsmouth, and expect to be there to-morrow noon. [I again, my dear friend, entreat both you and

Sir William not to suffer the Prince to dine, or even visit. 'Tis what no real modest person would suffer, and Sir William ought to know that his views *are dishonourable*. May God bless you and make you firm in resisting this vile attempt on your character, and with best regards to Sir William, believe me ever your most sincere and affectionate friend,' &c.

'You can, my dear friend, write a line on Sunday evening. It can be made up as a small parcel, and then I shall get it on Monday morning, although there is no regular post. It will make me so happy to be assured that the fellow did not even see you on Sunday. The Portsmouth mail coach setts out either from the Golden Cross, Charing Cross, or Gloucester Coffee House, Piccadilly, anybody can tell you the direction as underneath. Heavens bless you, my own, only dear friend! I write on this side that you may tear off the half sheet in case you choose to read any part of it.\* Pray give the enclosed to our dear friend. Your letters are just come. Heavens bless you! Do not let the villain into your house. Dine out on Sunday. Sir William will find out the Prince does not come to dine with him.']

523. A. L. S. 'N. & B.' from the same to the same. No date. 1 page 4to., with Superscription 'Mrs Thomson, to the care of Lady Hamilton.' [P.]

'Your friend is at my elbow, and enjoins me to assure you that his love for you and your child is, if possible, greater than ever, and that he calls God to witness that he will marry you as soon as possible, and that it will be his delight to call you his own. He desires you will adhere to Lady H's good advice and, like her, keep those impertinent men at a proper distance. He behaves, I can assure you, incomparably well, and loves you as much as man ever loved woman, and do you, my dear, believe me ever your dear friend.'

524. A. L. S. from the same to the same. Dated *St. George, Torbay*, February 19th, 1801. 2½ pages 4to., with Superscription and Seal. [P.]

'I have received your most affectionate letter, and I feel very much for the unpleasant situation the Prince, or rather Sir William, has unknowingly placed you, for if he knew as much of the P's character as the world does, he would rather let the lowest wretch that walks the streets dine at his table than that unprincipled liar. I have heard it reported that he has said he would make you his mistress. Sir William never can admit him into his house, nor can any friend advise him to it unless they are determined on your hitherto unimpeached character being ruined. No modest woman would suffer it. He is permitted to visit only houses of *notorious ill fame*. For heaven's sake let Sir William pause before he damns your good name. Mr Greville I take to be a man of strict honour, and he knows what I say of the Prince to be true. If *I have not mistaken my man*, which I shall be truly sorry to have done, I will answer with my head that Mr Greville would go down on his knees and beg Sir William to save your unspotted honour, for although I know you would send him to the Devil were he to propose such a thing to you, yet all the world have their eyes upon you, and your character, my amiable friend, is as much lost as if you was guilty. Let Sir William consult any man of honor, and with readiness they will join me in opinion. Let Sir William write the Prince and say that you ought not to receive him, and beg him never to come to the house—it is what I would do, I give you my word of honour. I am sure the Duke of Queensberry would agree with me. I have, my dear friend, perhaps, given too full an opinion, but you know, when I do give an opinion, it is generally to be understood, and, hitherto, seldom wrong. Make my affectionate regards to Sir William, and entreat him not to suffer such bad company into his house, and do you and him ever believe me your most attached and affectionate friend,' &c.

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\* The half-sheet has *not* been torn off.



525. A. L. S. from the same to the same. No date. 1 page 4to., with Superscription 'Mrs Thomson, to the care of Lady Hamilton.' [P.]

'I gave your letter to your friend, who is much pleased with your resolution. He says he feels confident of your conduct, and begs you will follow the admirable conduct of our dear Lady Hamilton, who will send the Prince to the devil. He again begs me to be his bondsman, and that he will marry you the moment your uncle dies or it comes a peace, and he desires his blessing to his child, and you will forgive my desiring you to kiss it for me. Your friend has not been very well, but hopes to be better very soon. Ever believe me, your & his sincere friend.'

526. A. L. S. from the same to the same. Dated 'Off Portland, 10 o'clock, Friday, February 20th' (1801). 2½ pages 4to., with Superscription 'Mrs. Thomson, to the care of Lady Hamilton.' [P.]

'Your friend, my dear Mrs Thomson, has been very unhappy at the shocking conduct of your uncle, but your firmness and virtue has made his mind at ease, and he desires me to tell you that if you are forced to quit his house by his shameful conduct, that then nothing should make him go to sea, even under my flag; nor, if he could be made a Lord or a Duke with £40,000 a year, and give you up, he would reject them with disdain, and would be happy to live on £100 a year. I admire his spirit and he is close by me. I hope Lady Hamilton, our dear and amiable friend, sends you my letters immediately as she received them, but I know her worth, and that she would scorn a mean or dirty action, but if you think there is any reason to suspect her of opening your letters I will, if you desire it, direct them to another house. Perhaps you know some female friend they might be directed under cover to. I hope to get him to London in a very few days, and you & he can settle everything. Don't tell Lady H. that I suspect her of doing either you or your friend any injury. I declare to God I believe her conduct to be purity itself. By the bye, Sir W<sup>m</sup> must be mad to attempt giving his wife the reputation of w—e to the P. I could not have believed it, if I had not been told it from most undoubted authority. I can assure you & your friend that you are both sure of the fortune as far as is possible—enough to content you & him, and the unalterable regard of your firm friend.

'I beg you will be easy under all circumstances. My old messmate, Troubridge, carries this to Lady H<sup>n</sup>. You do not know him, but Lady H. does. You will receive a letter, wrote this day under cover to Mr Nepean, directed to Lady H.

'8 o'clock, Saturday morning, in a gale of wind, S.W. off the Isle of Wight.

'I have been very unwell all night, and horrid dreams. If your uncle persists in having such bad company to dinner your friend begs, & I agree perfectly with him in opinion, that you should dine out of the house and take especial care not to go home till you know the wretches are gone, but I daresay they will stay on purpose to torment you. You can dine with Lady Hamilton or some other friend, and after all, if the beast turns you out of his house because you will not submit to be thought a w—e, you know then what shall happen. But follow my advice, and I will support your friend & yourself.

'If you think that Lady Hamilton or any one else open your letters, tell me where to direct them, & then your friend may write himself. Ever your affectionate N. B. Kiss my godchild for me; her father sends his blessing to you and it.

527. A. L. S. from the same to the same. Dated *St. George, Spithead*, February 22nd, 1801. 2¼ pages 4to., with Superscription and Seal. [P.]

['I hope you will have seen Troubridge last night, and he will probably tell you that he did not leave me perfectly at ease. In short, when I gave a letter for you it rushed into my mind that in 10 hours he would see you. A flood of tears

followed—it was too much for me to bear. I could not help telling him what would I not have given to have been in his pocket. I am sure, my amiable friend, that you will on no consideration be in company with that ———, neither this day or any other. He is a false, lying scoundrel, what I wrote you. You know enough to my honour and resolution that I will fulfil even much more than I promised.]

‘8 o’clock.—I am just going on shore to call on the Admiral and Commissioner, and shall be on board as soon as possible.

‘Noon.—On board again; have received your truly comforting letters. In doing what I wish, you win my heart for ever. I am all soul and sensibility; a fine thread will lead me, but with my life I would resist a cable from dragging me. I hope very soon to get a few days’ leave of absence, but Sir Hyde [Parker] does not come down till next Monday or Tuesday, but Troubridge can tell you. [But perhaps that would be telling him or making him guess my business in Town. But whenever I am absent he will receive and send all my packets. After the letter I wrote *her* the other day I do not think she will attempt to either come here or go to London. I will do as you please; but I do not believe she will venture without my orders; but *all* as you please.] I have been pressed to dine ashore by the Admiral, an old man, eighty, with an old wife dressed old ewe lamb fashion. Admiral Holloway,\* an acquaintance of twenty-five years, wanted me to dine with him as to-day, or Wednesday. He has a wife and four children, with not a farthing to give them. Sir Charles Sexton, the Commissioner, an acquaintance of near thirty years, was also very pressing; [his wife, I am told, likes a drop, & looks like a cook-maid.] But I will dine nowhere [without your consent], allthough, with my present feelings, I might be trusted with 50 virgins naked in a dark room. My thoughts are so fixed that not even the greatest strokes of fortune could change them, but I am, my dear friend, for ever, for ever, your faithful, &c. [I have answered Sir W<sup>m</sup>s letter, but as he had not mentioned the Prince’s name I could not bring it in, but if ever he does my heart, head, tongue and pen is ready to let out. I shall send to the mail-coach office in the morning. Heavens bless you. I have been obliged to bring in the whole Royal family, but not that eldest blackguard in particular. You will approve I am sure, and I say God bless the King.‘]

528. A. L. from the same to the same. No date (February 23rd,† 1801).

1½ pages 4to., with Superscription ‘To the Care of Lady Hamilton.’ [P.]

‘My dear M<sup>rs</sup> T., poor Thompson seems to have forgot all his ill health, and all his mortifications and sorrows, in the thought that he will soon bury them all in your dear, dear bosom; he seems almost beside himself. I hope you have always minded what Lady H<sup>n</sup> has said to you, for she is a pattern of attach<sup>t</sup> to her love. I daresay twins will again be the fruit of your & his meeting. The thought is too much to bear. Have the dear thatched cottage ready to receive him, & I will answer that he would not give it up for a queen and a palace. Kiss dear H. for me,’ &c.

529. A. L. S. from the same to the same. Dated Portsmouth, February 27th, 1801. 1 page 4to., with Superscription and Seal. [P.]

‘Parting from such a friend is literally tearing one’s own flesh; but the remembrance will keep up our spirits till we meet. [My affection is, if possible, stronger than ever for you, and I trust it will keep increasing as long as we both live. I have seen M<sup>rs</sup> Thomson’s friend, who is delighted at my having seen his dear child. I am sure he will be very fond of it.] I arrived here before noon,

\* Admiral John Holloway, 1747–1826, entered the navy at 13, served in North America, was at the relief of Gibraltar under Lord Howe, served under Admiral Hotham, was raised to the rank of Rear-Admiral in 1799, Vice-Admiral in 1804, was made Governor of Newfoundland in 1809, and died Admiral of the Red.

† Lord Nelson received from Lord St. Vincent on the 23rd leave of absence and went to London.



and have had my hands full of business. To-morrow we embark troops. I will write you a long letter to-night, and send it under cover to Troubridge ; therefore you will have it on Sunday. [For ever, aye for ever, believe me,'] &c. 'Hardy, Parker, and Fremantle, desire their remembrances.'

530. A. L. S. from the same to the same. Dated 'March 1st, 1801. 8 o'clock morn<sup>g</sup>.' 3 pages 4to., with Superscription and Seal. [P.]

'Fearing that it may not be possible to get a boat on shore in the afternoon, as it has the appearance of blowing hard, I send this line to apprise you of it, that no little ruffle might take place in your dear, good, and exalted mind ; only, always rely that I will never omit an opportunity of writing ; therefore, if at any time vessels should come from the fleet without letters, you may be sure that it is unknown to me, which may happen from my being detached ; but I hope not from the same cause as Lord Keith's—not telling me. [I have read over twenty times your dear kind letters, and, although I must naturally be happy that your affection is such as you describe, and so exactly a counterpart of my own feelings, yet] I must beg that my friend will not be sick, or grieve too much for a temporary, but unavoidable, absence of a few weeks, [and if we were both differently circumstanced, that should not be—no, not for an hour]. But recollect, all my exertions are to bring about a peace. [No, I am sure you will not go anywhere but where it is right, and never to suffer that fellow to enter your house. I assure you my very short trip to London has, if possible, given me an additional confidence, and I believe I never shall have cause to think otherwise than I do of you]. You read, of course, my brother's letter ; and if you like to have Mrs. Nelson up, say that I will pay their lodgings, and then you can have as much of her company as you please ; but Reverend Sir you will find a great bore at times, therefore he ought to amuse himself all the mornings, and not always to dine with you, as Sir William may not like it. They can twice or thrice a week have a beef steak at home, for some people may say bye and bye that Sir William maintains the family of the Nelson's, which would vex me. I am brushing these folks up, and I do not find that activity which my mind carries with it. It would not be possible, I fear, for you and Sir William to give me a visit at Yarmouth ; it should be no expense to him. To-morrow, if we can get our ship's company paid to-day, we are off for the Downs. [Tell Mrs. Thomson that her friend is more in love with her than ever, and, I believe, dreams of her. He was sorry that she was a little unwell when he was in London, as it deprived him of much pleasure, but he is determined to have full scope when he next sees her]. Ever yours for ever.

'Kiss my godchild for me and bless it.'

531. A. L. S. from the same to the same. Dated 'Sunday noon' (March 1st, 1801). 2½ pages 4to., with Superscription and Seal. [P.]

'After my letter of 8 o'clock this morning went on shore, on board came Oliver, and when he was announced by Hardy, so much anxiety for your safety rushed into my mind that a pain immediately seized my heart, which kept increasing for half an hour, that, turning cold, hot, cold, &c., I was obliged to send for the surgeon, who gave me something to warm me, for it was a deadly chill. This morning has brought me your three dear letters by the post, and as many from Troubridge. Parker being appointed to a fine ship, I have charged him to deliver into your own hands, if possible, this letter. Oliver I shall keep till to-morrow. Why, my dear friend, do you alarm yourself ? Your own Nelson will return safe, and, under the hand of Providence, is as safe as if walking London streets. The troops are only 800, and are intended for the better manning our ships. Recollect the more force we have the less risk. You may rely we shall return in May—perhaps long before ; the sooner we are off, the quicker we return, and the enemy much less prepared to receive us. I wish it was in my power to get leave of absence for James Dugdale, but not even an ad. or captain could get an hour's

leave, and Sir Thomas Pasley\* at Plymouth has no power to grant it. Amongst many cards, I think I saw somebody's rout, but as I cared for no rout, or the writers, I did not trouble my head about it. I am sure neither of us should have gone to Lady D's rout; we could amuse ourselves better at home. Mr. Levington served that fellow right, damn him. That Lady Aber:† is a damned bitch; she would pimp for her husband that she might get at her lovers, for I dare say not one satisfies her, but no proper lover but two that I know of. Would to God I had dined alone with you. *What a desert we would have had.* The time will come, and believe me, that I am, for ever, for ever, your own.

'Thanks for the account of my godchild. Heavens bless it! Our activity will make a peace, and then I would not call the King my uncle.

'Sir Charles Sexton, the Commissioner, who you & Sir William would have known had you come to Portsmouth, is on board seeing the ship; he is charmed with your picture, and says he did not believe such a handsome woman existed. I told him your equal did not, and that your goodness, abilities, and virtues exceeded far away your beauty. He is a rough sailor, 70, and a very old friend of mine. He quite regrets you and Sir William did not come to Portsmouth with me.'

532. A. L. S. from the same to the same. Dated 'March 1<sup>st</sup>, 1801, 9 o'clock.' 4 pages 4to. [P.]

'Now, my own dear wife, for such you are in my eyes and in the face of heaven, I can give full scope to my feelings, for I daresay Oliver will faithfully deliver this letter. You know, my dearest Emma, that there is nothing in this world that I would not do for us to live together, and to have our dear little child with us. [I firmly believe that this campaign will give us peace, and then we will sett off for Bronte. In twelve hours we shall be across the water and freed from all the nonsense of his friends, or rather pretended ones. Nothing but an event happening to him could prevent my going, and I am sure you will think so, for unless all matters accord it would bring 100 of tongues and slanderous reports if I separated from her (which I would do with pleasure the moment we can be united; I want to see her no more), therefore we must manage till we can quit this country or your uncle dies]. I love, I never did love any one else. I never had a dear pledge of love till you gave me one, and you, thank my God, never gave one to any body else. I think before March is out you will either see us back, or so victorious that we shall insure a glorious issue to our toils. Think what my Emma will feel at seeing return safe, perhaps with a little more fame, her own dear loving Nelson. Never, if I can help it, will I dine out of my ship, or go on shore, except duty calls me. Let Sir Hyde have any glory he can catch—I envy him not. You, my beloved Emma, and my country, are the two dearest objects of my fond heart—a *heart susceptible and true*. Only place confidence in me and you never shall be disappointed. I burn all your dear letters, because it is right for your sake, and I wish you would burn all mine—they can do no good, and will do us both harm if any seizure of them, or the dropping even one of them, would fill the mouths of the world sooner than we intend. [My longing for you, both person and conversation, you may readily imagine. What must be my sensations at the idea of sleeping with you! it setts me on fire, even the thoughts, much more would the reality. I am sure my love & desires are all to you, and if any woman naked were to come to me, even as I am this moment from thinking of you, I hope it might rot off if I would touch her even with my hand. No, my heart, person, and mind is in perfect union of love towards my own dear, beloved Emma—the *real bosom* friend of her, all hers, all Emma's,' &c.

'Oliver is gone to sleep, he is grown half foolish. I shall give him £10

\* Sir Thomas Pasley, 1734–1808, did not enter the navy until he was 18, and first distinguished himself in the battle with Thurot, off the coast of Ireland, received post rank in 1771, and in 1782 went to the West Indies with Admiral Pigot. In 1794 he became Rear-Admiral, and was created a Baronet for his conduct in the battle of the 1st of June. In 1799 he was appointed Port-Admiral at Portsmouth.

† Lady Abercorn.—See Vol. I., p. 168.



in the morning, and I have wrote a letter recommending a friend of his to the Chairman of the East India Company, which he said you would be glad I should do for him. I have nothing to send my Emma, it makes me sorry you & Sir W<sup>m</sup> could not come to Yarmouth, that would be pleasant, but we shall not be there more than a week at farthest.] I had a letter this day from the Rev. Mr. Holden, who we met on the Continent; he desired his kind compliments to you and Sir William: he sent me the letters of my name, and recommended it as my motto—*Honor est a Nilo*—HORATIO NELSON. May the Heavens bless you. [My love, my darling angel, my heaven-given wife, the dearest only true wife of her own till death,' &c. 'I know you will never let that fellow or any one come near you.]

'Monday morning.—Oliver is just going on shore; the time will ere long arrive when Nelson will land to fly to his Emma, to be for ever with her. Let that hope keep us up under our present difficulties. Kiss and bless *our* dear Horatia—think of that.'

533. A. L. S. to the same. Dated *St. George*, March 2nd, 1801. 1 page 4to., with Superscription and Seal. [P.]

'This moment received your letter from Troubridge, my heart bleeds for you, but I shall soon, very soon return. Damn all those that would make you false, but I know you will be true & faithful. Send for Mrs. Nelson,\* what signifies a few hundred pounds to make your dear mind a little at ease. Troubridge will forward your letters if you are at a loss to know where I am. I shall hate Mrs. Denis if she does not take care. My mind is fixed that if ever the damned fellow is admitted into your company, then your Nelson is rejected, and I would sooner believe the world to be at an end this week. Just sailing, therefore do not say much. Fancy what I would say, but this I would say to the last moment of my existence that I am all, all, your,' &c.

'Sir W<sup>m</sup> wrote me in his letter that if he could get over that Sunday the—— should never come into his house; remind him of that. Oliver went at 9 o'clock this morning. Love to my god-child.'

534. A. L. S. from the same to the same. Dated *St. George*, March 4th, 1801.  $\frac{1}{2}$  page 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'Do try and persuade Sir Will<sup>m</sup> to come with you & make me a visit, the change of air will do you good and I will try and make it pleasant to you both. We will have none but sailors near us. Tyler's† ship has been foolishly ashore all night, but she is afloat again. Do, pray, for charity's sake, come and see your old and attached friend.

'P. S. Just getting under sail, shall be at Yarmouth, I hope, to-morrow night.'

535. A. L. S. from the same to the same. Dated *St. George*, Downs (March), 4 o'clock (1801).  $\frac{3}{4}$  page 4to., with Superscription and Seal. [P.]

'Your dear letter is just received this day. I wrote to my Brother abt Mrs. Nelson, therefore, send and ask her without more ceremony. She will come. *Damn that fellow!* But you will be firm; *I am*. It might grieve me to see Sir W<sup>m</sup> without you, but if you approve, I will ask. Davison will come down with the maid and with my Brother, but Sir W<sup>m</sup> will not come without you. Thanks

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\* Sarah Yonge, Mrs. (afterwards Lady) Nelson, daughter of the Rev. Henry Yonge, and first wife of the Rev. William Nelson, afterwards 2nd Earl Nelson, 1757-1835, Nelson's elder brother, Prebendary of Canterbury.

† Sir Charles Tyler, attained post rank in 1790, was employed on the Italian coast under Nelson, in the Baltic under Sir Hyde Parker, was made an Admiral of the Blue in 1808, and in 1812 was constituted Commander-in-Chief at the Cape of Good Hope. In 1815 he was made K.C.B.; and died in 1838.

for the Lock. I will write Sir W<sup>m</sup> this evening, but even now am fearful I shall save post. Ever your own.

‘Cannot find the numbers.’\*

536. A. L. S. to Lady Nelson. Dated *St. George*, March 4th, 1801.  
1½ pages folio.

‘Josiah is to have another ship, and to go abroad, if the *Thalia* cannot soon be got ready. I have done *all* for him, and he may again, as he has often done before, wish me to break my neck, and be abetted in it by his friends, who are likewise my enemies; but I have done my duty as an honest, generous man, and I neither want or wish for any body to care what becomes of me, whether I return, or am left in the Baltic. Living, I have done all in my power for you, and if dead, you will find I have done the same; therefore my only wish is, to be left to myself: and wishing you every happiness, believe that I am, your affectionate,’ &c.†

537. A. L. S. from Lord Nelson to Lady Hamilton. Dated ‘*St. George* at sea, March 6th, 1801.’ 2¾ pages 4to., with Superscription and Seal. [H.]

‘How tiresome and alone I feel at not having the pleasure of receiving your dear, kind, friendly, and intelligent letters. I literally feel as a fish out of water. Calms and foul winds have already prolonged our passage from what is often done in fourteen hours to three days, and yet no appearance of our arrival this day. It now snows and rains, and nearly calm. All day yesterday I was employed about a very necessary thing; and I assure you it gave me pleasure, instead of pain, the reflection that I was providing for a dear friend. I have given you, by will, £3000, and three diamond boxes, & the King of Naples’s picture in trust, to be at your disposal, so that it is absolutely your own. By the codicil I have given you the money owing me by Sir William, likewise in trust. The trustees are, Mr. Ryder, a very eminent law man, and Mr. Davison; they will be my executors. If you like any body else, say so, and it shall be done. The star I have given you to wear for my sake. You must not think, my dearest friend, that this necessary act hastens our departure, but it is a right and proper measure. [Why should my friends be neglected, and those who I care nothing for have my little fortune, which I have worked so hard and I think so honorably for?]

‘*Half past eight*.—Just anchored in the sea, thick as mud. [I am really miserable; I look at all your pictures, at your dear hair, I am ready to cry, my heart is so full. Then I think you may see that fellow. I should never forgive it. It would go near to kill me; but I never will believe it till I know it for certain.]

‘*Noon*.—Under sail, steering for Yarmouth, but cannot arrive before 5 o’clock. [How I regret not being in time to save post, for I judge as of my own fleet.]

‘*Three o’clock*.—In sight of Yarmouth. [With what different sensations to what I saw it before! Then I was with all I hold dear in the world; now, unless the pleasure I shall have in reading your dear, dear letters, how indifferent to the approach. Although we are too late for the post, yet Hardy will take this letter on shore. I shall put it under cover to Troubridge as I shall those of tomorrow. May the Heavens bless my own dear friend and let me read happy & good news from her. Kiss my dear, dear godchild for me, and be assured I am for ever, ever, ever, your, your, your, more than ever yours yours, your own, only your,’ &c.]

‘I am wet through & cold.’

538. A. Doc. S. Dated March 6th, 1801. 1 page folio.

‘Whereas the R<sup>t</sup> Hon<sup>ble</sup> Sir William Hamilton, K.B., is in my debt the

\* Meaning the numbers of some lottery tickets of which Nelson and Lady Hamilton were the possessors. See letter 555, p. 135.

† This letter, which is supposed to be the last letter ever written by Nelson to his wife, is printed in Mr. Morrison’s *Catalogue*, First Series, vol. v., under entry NELSON, as are also nos. 536, and 540.



following sums, viz., nine hundred & twenty-seven pounds lent him at Palermo, in January, 1799; also the sum of two hundred and fifty-five pounds lent him between July and November, 1800; also one thousand and ninety-four pounds, being one-half of our expenses from Leghorn to London in 1800, making in the whole the sum of two thousand two hundred and seventy-six pounds. I give this debt afore-mentioned in trust to Thomas Ryder, Esq., of Lincoln's Inn, and to Alexander Davison, Esq., of St. James's Square, for the use & benefit of Emma Hamilton, to be disposed of as she may direct, and I likewise request that my friends, Thomas Ryder, Esq., & Alexander Davison, Esq., will execute the office of executors, to my will made fifth March, 1801, and that they will each accept of one hundred pounds to buy a ring; and it is my directions that the sum necessary to pay Lady Nelson the sum of one thousand pounds a year (which I calculate will be twenty thousand pounds) be at her death equally divided as directed by will. Given on board his Majesty's ship *Saint George* at sea March sixth one thousand eight hundred and one

'NELSON & BRONTE.

'I declare this a codicil to my last will and testament, March 6th, 1801.

'NELSON & BRONTE.

'Witness : T. M. HARDY, Captain of H. M. ship *St. George*.

FREDERICK THESIGER, Captain in the Royal Navy.\*

'Delivered by Lord Nelson this 16<sup>th</sup> March, 1801, as a duplicate to his codicil of March 6<sup>th</sup>, 1801.'

539. A. L. S. from Lord Nelson to Lady Hamilton. Dated '10 o'clock, March 6<sup>th</sup>, at night' (1801). 3½ pages 4to., with Superscription and Scal. [P.]

'I have received, I dare say, all your kind letters and newspapers. No one else sends me anything. I am sorry you are not well, nor can my mind be at rest, although I am obliged to keep up an appearance of alacrity. Nothing shall make me go on shore to any amusement or dinner. In the morning, if very fine, I shall go to make my bow to the Commander-in-Chief, but have asked some sailor folks to dinner. Our expedition must be very short. I don't think at most more than six weeks, probably not half so long, and if *necessity* should call me to England I will come directly. [What a rascal that fellow must be. It shows, however, he has no real love—not like a person you & I know—and what bitches and pimps those folks must be. I have always been taught that a pimp was the most despicable of all wretches, and that chap who once treated Emma so infamously ill ought to have, even before Sir William, one of your rebukes in your best & most legible hand. He would never forget it. God forbid that I should deprive you of innocent amusements, but never meet or stay if any damned whore or pimp bring that fellow to you. Let no temptation make you deviate from your oath.] I hope Mrs Nelson will soon be with you; write to her, she will come. I have just received a letter from my brother to say he will be at Yarmouth on Monday, then I will make a point of it. Lord St. Vincent, I see, has carried his false suit against his own Secretary, and I suppose I shall be cast, but try it I will. How infamous against poor Nelson! every body, except you, tears him to pieces, nor has he but only you, as a disinterested friend, that he can unbosom to. [Aye would to God our fates had been different. I worship—nay, adore you, and if you was single and I found you under a hedge, I would instantly marry you. Sir W<sup>m</sup> has a treasure, and does he want to throw it away? That other chap did throw away the most precious jewel that God Almighty ever sent on this earth. You must be aware, my dear friend, that the letters cannot be answered by the same day's post, for the letters are delivered at 3 o'clock, and the post goes out for London at 2 o'clock, it arrives at one.] Just going to bed with much rheumatism. [May God bless you for ever, says your truly affectionate,'] &c.

'March 7. I am just going on shore with Hardy to pay my formal visit, therefore

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\* Captain Sir Frederick Thesiger, uncle of Sir Frederick Thesiger, the Attorney-General. He served with great distinction in the Russian Navy against the Swedes. He was promoted to Post-captain in 1801, and died in 1805, being then Agent for Prisoners of War at Portsmouth.

I carry these letters. I hope Sir Hyde will be pushed on to sail. The sooner we go the less resistance, and, oh heavens grant it, the sooner I, your Nelson, will return [to his own dear, good, only friend. Heavens bless you! I wrote to keep Sir W<sup>m</sup> from the Downs, & sent you a letter inside of his, but how different to these. It kills me to write cold letters to you, ever for ever your.']

540. A. L. S. from 'Thomas Tugbear' to Lord Nelson. Dated March 7th, 1801. 1 page 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'As I am informed you are going to *destroy* or *bring away* all the Swedes, Danes, and Russians, I take the opportunity to beg your Honour's goodness to bring over the Emperor Paul and bestow him upon *me*, as I am a poor fellow and wants an outlandish *wild beast* to carry about as a *show*, which I think will enable me to maintain a wife and six small children.'\*

541. A. L. S. from Lord Nelson to Lady Hamilton. No date (March 9th, 1801). 1½ pages 4to., with Superscription and Seal. [P.]

'I have wrote you fully by M<sup>r</sup> Davison, who will be with you on Wednesday morning. Your letters to-day have made me miserable; there is a turn in them that I have noticed, it almost appeared that you liked to dwell on the theme that that fellow wished, and what he would give, to enjoy your person; but never, no never, will I credit that you will ever admit him into your presence, much less the other. The first drives me for ever from you, and probably out of the world. My senses are almost gone to-night; I feel as I never felt before. My head! my head! but I will lay down and try to compose my spirits, miserable wretch that I am. Good night; all are burnt. Surely you would not go to meet M<sup>r</sup> Hodges after his messages to you. No, I will never believe anything against my friend's honor & faith to me. Good night, I am more dead than alive, but all yours till death—no, the thought of Horatia cheers me up. We will be yet happy. My God! my God! look down and bless us; we will pray to thee for help & comfort, and to make our situation more happy. Good night, my own.

'Monday morning.—If I have said anything too strong, my only friend, forgive me. I am sorry my brother is coming, I like to be alone and reflect; now I shall scarce have a moment to write to thee, my own dearest friend. I shall soon return, and then we will take our fill of love. No, we never can be satiated till death divides us. I wish you could have come down with M<sup>rs</sup> Nelson, but that is not possible. May the great God comfort you, and believe me for ever your, your own,' &c.

542. A. L. S. from the same to the same. Dated *St. George*, March 10th, 1801. 3 pages 4to., with Superscription and Seal.

'Your letter, my dearest friend, of yesterday, that is of Sunday, gave me infinite satisfaction, [and, believe me, my feelings and affections keep pace with yours. I shall, please God, soon return to enjoy happiness, that is if with her who I hold most dear.] The Commander-in-Chief has his orders, but I dare say it will be two or three days before he is off. I long to go that I may the sooner return. Troubridge will, I am sure, take care of all our packets, only every day or two make newspapers, letters, &c., in one packet, for the more packages the more liable to be lost, and I would not have a line of yours lost [for the riches of Peru. I devour, I feed upon them.] What can Sir William mean by wanting you to launch out into expense and extravagance? He that used to think that a little candle-light and iced water would ruin him, to want to set off at £10,000 a year, for a less sum would not afford concerts and the style of living equal to it. Suppose you had set off in this way, what would he not have said? [But you are at auction, or rather to be sold by private contract. Good God! my blood boils; to you that everything used *to be refused*. I cannot bear it. Aye, how different I feel! A cottage,

\* Nelson has written underneath the above: 'Lord Nelson will do his best to comply with M<sup>r</sup> Tugbear's request.—*St. George*, March 11<sup>th</sup>, 1801.'



a plain joint of meat, and happiness, doing good to the poor, and setting an example of virtue and godliness, worthy of imitation even to kings and princes.] My brother and Mr Rolfe, a cousin of mine, are on board—the former is prying, and a little of a bore. [I long to be alone or with you. I hate company, it ill accords with my feelings. Damn Lord A.\*, do not let him take libertys.] I suppose I shall lose my cause† against Lord St. Vincent, I have only *justice, honour, and the custom of the service* on my side; he has *partiality, power, money, and rascality* on his, but we are good friends, and I have the highest opinion of his naval ability. You know, my dear Emma, that I would not detract from the merit of my greatest enemies. No, I am above that. You will have Mrs Nelson with you. She will be company, and the little woman's tongue never lays still—she is a cheerful companion. You cannot write me too much or too particularly, [tell me everything, even your thoughts and feelings. When did you see Lord A.? You did not tell me. May the heavens bless and preserve you for your, your, yours, and only yours, and for you alone, your own dear, affectionate, sincere friend,] &c.

‘Best regards to the Duke and Lord W<sup>m</sup>. I wrote to Mrs Nelson on Saturday, but my brother says she cannot go before Monday next. Davison said you had said something about Madeira, & that he had said jokingly that he had *no orders*. Now he has sent for it all; everything I have is at your command, and may heaven bless you.’]

543. A. L. S. from the same to the same. Dated ‘*St. George*, 9 o'clock, March 11th’ (1801). 1 $\frac{3}{4}$  pages 4to., with Superscription and Seal. [P.]

[‘You had said nothing that ought to have offended me, but you know my disposition, what I must suffer in parting from all my soul holds dear. If you do not tell me all of that fellow I shall be more miserable. Our trip cannot be long, and if you are forced to extremities I must very soon arrive; nothing *stops* me, you understand. This goes by Troubridge. I shall endeavour to get it on board a ship in the Roads in the morning.] I am glad Mrs Nelson is with you; say how much I am obliged. I have directed this night Davison to pay her £100 to pay expenses. Pray, what has Christie done about your picture. I have no letter from him; how can any man sell your resemblance, to buy it many would fly. As for the original, no price is adequate to her merits. Those of her dear mind & heart, if possible, exceed your beauty. All this world's greatness I would give up with pleasure. *So be it, Amen.*

‘Emma, let me be the friend of your bosom. I deserve it, for my confidence is reciprocated. I see clearly, my dearest friend, you are on SALE. I am almost mad to think of the iniquity of wanting you to associate with a set of whores, bawds, & unprincipled lyars. Can this be the great Sir William Hamilton? I blush for him. Be comforted, you are sure of my friendship, and Mrs Thompson's friend desires me to beg of you to tell her that he swears eternal fidelity, and if he does not say true, he hopes the first shot from Cronenburgh Castle will knock his head off. My brother is gone on shore, and if the weather is moderate we are

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\* No doubt Lord Abercorn.

† This ‘cause’ of Nelson against Lord St. Vincent, which he frequently mentions in his correspondence of this period, related to a law-suit, nominally Nelson *v.* Tucker, but really Nelson *v.* St. Vincent. It related to a sum of Prize-money which had occasioned much discussion. Tucker was the Agent for Prizes taken by the Mediterranean fleet under Earl St. Vincent, in 1799. The action was to recover £13,000, one-eighth share of the prizes taken by Captain Digby, belonging to the Earl's squadron, after the Commander-in-Chief had quitted his station and returned to England, leaving Lord Nelson in command. In the first instance judgment was given for Earl St. Vincent, but upon a writ of error the Lord Chief Justice of the Common Pleas, Lord Ellenborough, reversed the decision by delivering the opinion of the Court that ‘the moment a superior officer left his station the right of the next flag officer commenced and, consequently, that Lord St. Vincent having returned to England the enterprise and conduct of the fleet devolved on Lord Nelson.’ Judgment was accordingly given in favour of Lord Nelson, who thereby became entitled to the whole of the Admiral's share of the Prize-money.

off at daylight, unless vessels are left by Sir H. Parker. I have directed all my letters to be returned to No. 23 Piccadilly, so take care they get into your possession. Ever for ever, your own dear loving friend till death.'

544. A. L. S. from Sir W. Hamilton to Lord Nelson. Dated Piccadilly, March 12th, 1801. 4 pages 4to. [H.]

'A thousand thanks for your kind letter, which I received yesterday and which I immediately committed to the flames, for altho' I agree perfectly with your Lordship in opinion as to the character of the person who was the chief subject of your letter, I would not have it fall into other hands by any accident. Mons<sup>r</sup> Gleichen,\* the Danish Minister, was at Paris, & a chattering lady was imprudent enough to say to him in company at table, "Mons<sup>r</sup> Gleichen, on dit que Votre Roi est une tête : " a head, but a wrong one according to the French expression. She was answered very properly in two words, " Couronnée, Madame."

'After having assured you that Emma is growing better in health every day, I shall refer you as to the small talk of the town to her letter. According to the best of my information the King is really better, but in a very weak state, & going to-day or to-morrow to Kew or Windsor for the air. Mr Swinburn has just left me, & told me that his friend Mr Pelham† had seen the King—found him quite composed, but very pale and feeble. The opposite party, that would set us all in confusion, still insist that he is out of his senses & incapable as a child of any business. To be sure, the physicians will take care not to let him be loaded with too much at present, but I have not a doubt of his being able, & that he will sign what is necessary, and before competent witnesses, to carry on the affairs of State, & probably appoint a sort of commission to pass bills, &c., untill he recovers strength to do it himself. I rejoice with you that things have taken this turn. The King has not yet seen the Prince, nay refused to see him yet, altho' he has seen some of his brothers, the Dukes of York and Kent, who are said to be quite in opposition to the Prince. I believe y<sup>r</sup> L<sup>p</sup> may depend upon all I have written on this most interesting subject.

'It is quite beyond all expectations that I have found so many of my fine vases ; fortunately some cases of the worst were taken on board the *Colossus* by mistake, when I thought the eight best cases were gone. I flatter myself my ministerial business was finished by the late ministers, and altho' I have been advised to apply to L<sup>d</sup> Hawkesbury, I certainly will not untill I am certain that L<sup>d</sup> Grenville had not finished my business as he promised. Adieu, my very dear Lord, we rejoiced to hear from Davison that your health was so good when he left you. May God send you a continuance of it & of every success, and bring you back safe to your friends who know your value.'

545. A. L. from Lord Nelson to Lady Hamilton. No date (March, 1801). 1 page 4to., with Superscription 'To be delivered by Lady Hamilton.' [P.]

'You may readily believe, my dearly beloved Mrs. T., how dear you are to me—as much as life, and that every thought and affection is devoted to you alone ; and although I am much worn out since we parted, yet, I am sure that the sight of my

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\* Karl Heinrich, Baron Gleichen, 1733–1807, a Danish diplomatist of German origin. His first diplomatic service was representing the Margrave of Baireuth at Paris in 1758. He then offered his services to the King of Denmark who sent him to Madrid in 1759 and to Paris in 1763, where he remained until 1770, when he was sent to Naples. That post having been suppressed in 1771, he retired into private life and died at Ratisbon.

† Thomas Pelham, 2nd Earl of Chichester, 1756–1826, summoned to Parliament as Baron Pelham in June, 1801, Secretary of State for the Home Department from 1801 to 1803. He succeeded his father as 2nd Earl of Chichester in 1805, and was Postmaster-General in 1822.



heaven-given wife will make me again a happy father, and you a mother. Be assured that I love nothing but you in this world, and our dear child. Fancy what would happen, and will happen, when we meet. I can say no more; flattering fancy wafts me to your dear, dear arms. When you see our dear mutual friend, L<sup>y</sup> Ham<sup>n</sup>, say every kind thing for your husband to her, and hug our dear child. God bless you.'

546. A. L. S. 'F.' from the same to the same. No date (March, 1801).  
1 page 8vo. [P.]

'My dearest M<sup>rs</sup> T.,—Poor T. is very well in health, and only feels the separation from his dear wife and child, but he bears it, as he is sensible that it is all for the best to make an independence for his family. He desires that you will love Lady Hamilton, and do everything which that most excellent woman desires you. Kiss his child for him; he gives you 10,000, and is for ever your faithful husband.'

547. A. Doc. S. Dated March 16th, 1801. 4 pages folio.

'Whereas I, Horatio Nelson, of the Nile, and of Burnham Thorpe, in the county of Norfolk, Duke of Bronté, in Sicily, &c. &c., a Vice-Ad<sup>r</sup> in his Majesty's fleet, being in sound health both in body and mind, do declare (first revoking all former wills made by me) this to be my last will and testament:—First, I commend my soul unto God, that through the merits of His Son Jesus Christ it may be saved; my body, if my country choose not to pay the carcass of him who, when alive, devoted it to its service, any honours, I desire, if it's in England, that it may be buried at Burnham Thorpe, near where my mother is and my father is to be buried, without any funeral pomp, and that what the custom of the world would allow to a person of my rank, I desire it may be given to the poor of those parishes where my father is rector, viz., Burnham Thorpe, Sutton Sherton; as to my worldly effects, I dispose of them as hereafter mentioned, and I desire that my words may be interpreted in their plain common sence. When, as I believe, I am worth upwards of twenty thousand pounds, placed in the public funds, in prize-money due, pensions, &c., from the interest of this money I desire that one thousand pounds a-year may be regularly paid to my wife, Frances Herbert Nelson, till her death; that is, I mean that if I am worth twenty thousand pounds and prize-money due (but not to include any of my boxes, pictures, swords, &c.), then the interest of that twenty thousand pounds to be paid to Lady Nelson during her natural life, and I having in my lifetime made her a present of four thousand pounds, I think I have done very handsomely towards her; and I dispose of all money which I may die worth above the sum of twenty thousand pounds (never calculating my estate in Sicily, diamonds, &c., which will be disposed of as hereafter mentioned). I give the first three thousand pounds above the aforementioned twenty thousand pounds to Thomas Ryder, Esq<sup>r</sup>, of Lincoln's Inn, and Alexander Davison, Esq<sup>r</sup>, of St. James's Square, London, in trust for the use and benefit of Emma Hamilton, wife of the R<sup>t</sup> Hon<sup>ble</sup> Sir William Hamilton, K.B<sup>t</sup>, now residing at number 23 Piccadilly, the interest and principal to be at her disposal either in her lifetime or at her death, as she shall direct. I also give in trust to the gentlemen aforesaid, in trust for Emma Hamilton, &c., as aforementioned, three boxes sett with diamonds, viz., one of his Imperial Majesty the Emperor Paul of Russia, one of the King of Sardinia, and one other, said to be sent to me by the mother of the Grand Signor, also a picture sett in diamonds of his Sicilian Majesty, and on the other side the cypher of her Sicilian Majesty, set in diamonds, all of which said boxes she may direct to be sold and the interest applied to her use and according to her directions either in her lifetime or at her death; and I likewise give to the said Emma Hamilton, but not in trust, my diamond star, which I request she will wear either in its present form or in any other she may like best, in remembrance of an old and sincere friend.

'And whereas his Sicilian Majesty has granted unto me the estate of Bronté, in the Island of Sicily, it is my intention and will to dispose of it as follows:—

First to my father, the Rev. Edmund Nelson, and at his death to my eldest brother, Maurice, and if he leaves male children then to his children, but in failure of issue shall then to my brother William, and in like manner to his male children, and to their legitimate male children, to my sister, Susannah Bolton, and her male children, in like manner, then to my sister, Catherine Matcham, and to her male children, as before directed; and I further direct that whoever is the possessor of the estate shall pay to the next successor the one quarter part of the net rental of the estate, if it is under 1200 pounds a-year, if above 2000 pounds a-year, then never more than 500 pounds a-year; and I further direct that the diamond-hilted sword given to me by his Sicilian Majesty shall be delivered to my executors to my father, if he be alive, or to such heir to the estate of Bronté as is directed by my will, and the sword is to be left in succession to the possessor of the dukedom and estate of Bronté, provided they are those mentioned by my will, or by any codicil or deed of mine. I give unto my elder brother the gold box presented to me by the captains who fought with me at the Battle of the Nile. I give unto my sister Bolton the silver cup presented to me by the Turkey Company, I give unto my sister Matcham the sword presented to me by the City of London. The diamond aigrette, the Collar of the Bath, and the medals and Order of St. Ferdinand, I leave to the care of my hereditary heirs, in order that it may be recollected that there was once such a person as myself living. It is my direction that all the money which I may die worth, beyond the £20,000 appropriated to pay the interest of Lady Nelson's jointure, and of the three thousand pounds given to Lady Hamilton, be equally divided between my father, brothers, and sisters, and in case of any of their deaths, then their children to stand in their place; all my other effects to be equally divided between my brothers and sisters, except such as I may dispose of by the codicil to my will, or codicils, which I may hereafter execute.

'Dated on board His Majesty's ship *St. George* at sea, March fifth, one thousand eight hundred and one.

'T. M. HARDY, Captain H. M. *St. George*.

'FREDERICK THESIGER, Captain the Royal Navy.

'Delivered by Lord Nelson as a duplicate of his will, wrote on four half sheets of paper on board the *St. George* at sea, 1801, March 16<sup>th</sup>. Witness our hands.'

548. A. Doc. S. Dated March 16<sup>th</sup>, 1801. 1 page 4to.

'I give unto Emma Hamilton my Turkish pelesse; and also all pictures of herself, which now do or may belong to me, also a full length picture of the Queen of Naples painted by Zeque at Vienna. To Captain Hardy, my worthy captain, I give, except my plate and table linen, all my furniture at present aboard the *St. George*, with spying-glasses, wine, china & glass ware. My silver cup marked "E. H." to be returned to Lady Hamilton. To Thomas Allen, my servant, fifty pounds and all my cloaths.

'Dated on board the *St. George* at sea, March sixteenth, one thousand eight hundred and one.

'NELSON & BRONTÉ.

'I declare this as a codicil to my will, March 5<sup>th</sup>, 1801.—NELSON & BRONTÉ.

'Delivered by Lord Nelson as a duplicate.—FREDERICK THESIGER.\*

549. A. L. from Lord Nelson to Lady Hamilton. Dated 'March 21<sup>st</sup> (1801), 1 o'clock.'  $\frac{1}{2}$  page 4to.† [P.]

'May the great good God of heaven and earth preserve you and your friend. He has no fear of death but parting from you. May God grant you a happy meeting and soon, and believe me ever yours,' &c.

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\* This and the preceding document have been published in Mr. Morrison's *Catalogue*, First Series, vol. v., under entry NELSON.

† Only a fragment apparently.



550. A. L. S. from Sir W. Hamilton to Charles Greville. Dated Piccadilly, March 31st (1801). 3 pages 4to., with Superscription. [H.]

'I was yesterday with Christie; he gave me in writing the produce of the sale, with my ballance much greater than I thought, altho' many mistakes have been made, and pictures bought in for me that went beyond the limits I had set in the catalogues.

'Bought in to the value of	...	...	...	...	...	£636
'Total of the sale produced	...	...	...	...	...	£5760 14s.
'Actually sold to the value of	...	...	...	...	...	£5025 13s.

'Mr Christie's room will be ready for my next sale the 21<sup>st</sup> of April, & he proposed the 2<sup>d</sup> & 3<sup>d</sup> of May for the 2 days' sale, so that we may have 10 days of private and public views. He wishes to meet us in Compton Street to determine how many, & what pictures are to go in the second sale. If agreeable to you, I will fix Thursday, 12 o'clock, for that purpose. He wishes to have as soon as possible the heads of the advertisement for the second sale, & I am already employed in framing a short catalogue *raisonnée* of the vases & their subjects. I was yesterday in George St.; the mending will be completed certainly by the end of the week, & then we will get a better hand to retouch the cracks with black and yellow as occasion may require, & try to give them by oil or otherwise their pristine brilliancy. It will be a most extraordinary exhibition, but I know not well how to manage about the Priapi, of which there are many. Tho' the wise ones think the sale ought to be postponed till next year, I am convinced that unless any speculator would give a round sum for the remains of the most extraordinary collection of vases ever made, it is best for me to strike whilst the iron is hot & profit of the good opinion of the public. I dine at the club, Thatched House, but shall be at home by 9 o'clock. Ever,' &c.

'P. S. I was with L<sup>d</sup> W. yesterday. He was most friendly; cleared up the business of his old debt to me for money paid by his order to Wallis—it is to be paid directly, and is about £400.'

551. A. L. from Lord Nelson to Lady Hamilton. Dated '*Elephant*, March 30<sup>th</sup>, off Copenhagen, 9 o'clock at night' (1801). 1 page 4to., with Superscription and Seal. [P.]

'We this morning passed the fancied tremendous fortress of Cronenburg, mounted with 270 pieces of cannon. More powder and shot, I believe, never were thrown away, for not one shot struck a single ship of the British fleet. Some of our ships fired; but the *Elephant* did not return a single shot. I hope to reserve them for a better occasion. I have just been reconnoitring the Danish line of defence. It looks formidable to those who are children at war, but to my judgment, with ten sail of the line I think I can annihilate them; at all events, I hope to be allowed to try. I am not very well and tired, but Foley is very good to me. I have much to do here, exactly what you said in London. May God, whom I worship, protect and send me victorious. Amen, if it be His good pleasure. May the heavens bless you. My best regards to Sir William. I hope his pictures have sold well. Recommend to Lord William not to make *songs* about *us*, for fear *we* should not deserve his good opinion. Once more, adieu, and may God bless you shall be my last word.'

552. A. L. S. from Sir W. Hamilton to Charles Greville. Dated 'Piccadilly, Friday, 3<sup>rd</sup> April' (1801). 2 pages 4to., with Superscription. [H.]

'This morning Mr Tho<sup>s</sup> Hope came to me, and having offered the round sum of four thousand pound down for my whole collection of vases for which I had asked £5000, finding that I could get no more, & considering trouble, risk, & then a little vanity in the collection being kept entire, which I made with such pains, I struck with him, & then went with him to George St. and gave him the keys of all the padlocks, & now he is to manage as well as he can with fractures,

&c., and I have been with Christie to inform him, but the advertisement was gone. He will publish another to inform the publick that the collection has been disposed of by private contract, by which means they will not be dispersed, but remain together for the inspection of the learned antiquaries and artists. I saw Christie was much disappointed, but upon the whole I have, I believe, done prudently. At least, my mind is made easy at once & much trouble avoided, which counts much with me. Risk of breakings, selling ill, & auction expenses would, I believe, have run my ballance below what it now is. Christie will appoint the 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> of this month for the sale of the remainder of my pictures. Yours, &c.

553. Document, 'Minute of a conversation with His Royal Highness Prince Royal of Denmark,' with Lord Nelson's A. corrections. Dated April 3rd, 1801. 4½ pages folio. [P.]

'His Royal Highness\* began the conversation by saying how happy he was to see me, and thanked me for my humanity to the wounded Danes. I then said, that it was to me, and would be the greatest affliction to every man in England, from the King to the lowest person, to think that Denmark had fired on the British flag, and become leagued with her enemies. His Royal Highness stopped me by saying that Admiral Parker had declared war against Denmark. This I denied, and requested his Royal Highness to send for the papers, and he would find the direct contrary, and that it was the farthest from the thoughts of the British Admiral. I then asked if his Royal Highness would permit me to speak my mind freely on the present situation of Denmark? to which he having acquiesced, I stated to him the sensation which was caused in England by such an unnatural alliance with, at the present moment, the furious enemy of England. His answer was, that when he made the alliance, it was for the protection of their trade, and that Denmark would never be the enemy of England, and that the Emperor of Russia was not the enemy of England when this treaty was formed—that he never would join Russia against England, and his declaration to that effect was the cause of the Emperor's (I think he said) sending away his Minister—that Denmark was a trading nation, and had only to look to the protection of its lawful commerce. His Royal Highness then enlarged on the impossibility of Danish ships under convoy having on board any contraband trade; but to be subjected to be stopped, even a Danish fleet, by a pitiful privateer, and that she should search all the ships and take out of the fleet any vessels she might please, was what Denmark could not permit. To this my answer was simply, What occasion for convoy to fair trade? To which he answered, Did you find any thing in the convoy of the *Freja*? and that no Commander could tell what contraband goods might be in the convoy, &c. &c., and as to merchants, they would always sell what was most saleable; and as to swearing to property, I could get any thing sworn to which I pleased. I then said, Suppose that England, which she never will, was to consent to this freedom and nonsense of navigation, I will tell your Royal Highness what the result would be—ruination to Denmark; for the present commerce of Denmark with the warring powers was half the neutral carrying trade, and any merchant in Copenhagen would tell you the same. If all this freedom was allowed, Denmark would not have more than the sixth part, for the State of Passenburgh was as good as the State of Denmark in that case; and it would soon be said, we will not be stopped in the Sound, our flag is our protection, and Denmark would lose a great source of her present revenue; and that the Baltic would soon change its name to the Russian Sea. He said, this was a delicate subject, to which I replied, That his Royal Highness had permitted me to speak out. He then said, Pray answer me a question. For what is the British fleet come into the Baltic? My answer, To crush a most formidable and unprovoked coalition against Great Britain. He then went on to say, that his uncle had been deceived, that it was a misunderstanding, and that

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\* Frederick, Crown Prince of Denmark, afterwards Frederick XII., 1768-1839. Eldest son of Christian VII. and Mathilda Caroline, sister of George III. He was Regent for the kingdom in 1784, and succeeded his father as King in 1808.



nothing should ever make him take a part against Great Britain, for that it could not be his interest to see us crushed, nor, he trusted, ours to see him; to which I acquiesced. I then said, there could be no doubt of the hostility of Denmark, for if her fleet had been joined with Russia and Sweden, they would assuredly have gone into the North Sea, menaced the Court of England, and probably have joined the French if they had been able. His Royal Highness said his ships never should join any power against England, but it required not much argument to satisfy him he could not help it, by his treaty. In speaking of the pretended union of the Northern Powers, I could not help saying that his Royal Highness must be sensible that it was nonsense to talk of a mutual protection of trade with a power who had none, and that he must be sensible that the Emperor of Russia would never have thought of offering to protect the trade of Denmark, if he had not had hostility against Great Britain. He said repeatedly, I have offered to-day and do offer, my mediation between Great Britain and Russia. My answer was, A mediator must be at peace with both parties. You must settle your matter with Great Britain. At present you are leagued with our enemies, and are considered naturally as a part of the effective force to fight us. Talking much on this subject, his Royal Highness said, What must I do to make myself equal? Answer,—Sign an alliance with Great Britain, and join your fleet to ours. His Royal Highness then said, Russia will go to war with us, and my desire as a commercial nation is to be at peace with all the world. I told him, he knew the offer of Great Britain, either to join us or disarm. And pray, Lord Nelson, what do you call disarming? My answer was, that I was not authorized to give an opinion on the subject; but I considered it as not having on foot any force beyond the customary establishment. Question: And do you consider the guard ships in the Sound as beyond that common establishment? Answer: I do not. Question: We have always had five sail of the line in the Cattegat and coast of Norway? Answer: I am not authorized to define what is exactly disarming, but I do not think such a force will be allowed. His Royal Highness: When all Europe is in such a dreadful state of confusion, it is absolutely necessary that States should be on their guard. Answer: Your Royal Highness knows the offers of England to keep 20 sail of the line in the Baltic. He then said, I am sure my intentions are very much misunderstood. To which I replied, that Sir Hyde Parker had authorized me to say that upon certain conditions his Royal Highness might have an opportunity of explaining his sentiments at the Court of London. I am not authorized to say on what conditions exactly. Question: But what do you think? Answer: First, a free entry of the British fleet into Copenhagen, and the free use of everything we may want from it. Before I could get on, he replied quick, That you shall have with pleasure. The next is, whilst this explanation is going on, a total suspension of your treaties with Russia. These, I believe, are the foundation on which Sir Hyde Parker only can build other articles for his justification in suspending his orders, which are plain and positive. His Royal Highness then desired me to repeat what I had said, which having done, he thanked me for my open conversation; and I having made an apology if I had said any thing which he might think too strong, his Royal Highness very handsomely did the same, and we parted, he saying that he hoped we would cease from hostilities to-morrow, as on such an important occasion he must call a Council.

554. A. L. S. from Lord Nelson to Adjutant-General Lindholm. Dated *St. George*, April 4th, 1801.  $\frac{1}{2}$  page 4to., with Superscription and Seal.

‘I feel infinitely obliged by your attention in sending me the newspapers, which I have sent to Sir Hyde Parker. As I only told His Royal Highness plain truths, I hope it will make a right understanding between the two countries, and that Denmark will no longer be the ally of the enemy of Great Britain, and must be in his heart more so that of Denmark. Sir Hyde Parker is, I know, very anxious for His Royal Highness’s propositions, as the Commander-in-Chief thinks it very long for the fleet to lay idle. Believe me,’ &c.

555. A. L. S. from the same to Lady Hamilton. Dated April 6th (1801). 1 page 4to., with Superscription and Seal. [P.]

'I have just got hold of the verses\* wrote by Miss Knight; they belong to you; the latter part is a little applicable to my present situation. It is dreadfully cold. I am sure, from our communication with the shore yesterday, that it is only fear of Russia that prevents all our disputes being settled. These people must sooner or later submit, and I long to get to Revel before the Russian fleet can join that of Cronstadt; but my dear friend, we are very lazy. We Mediterranean people are not used to it. Some farther propositions are to come off this day, but I fear it blows too hard. May the great God of heaven and earth bless & protect you is the constant prayer of your old and attached friend,' &c.

'April 6th. 7 in the morning. I am obliged to stop, as I know not exactly the moment of the vessel's sailing.

'No. of our lottery tickets:—2951, 9308, 43,002, 50,416. You can send and inquire our luck.'

556. A. L. S. from Mr. Vansittart† to Lord Nelson. Dated London, April 8th, 1801. 5½ pages 4to. [P.]

'The solicitude you expressed that I should undertake the explanation of the reasons which induced you to propose a deviation from the original plan of operation designed for the fleet, would have been a motive with me of the strongest kind to enter into as early and complete a vindication of them as possible, if I had been in no respect personally interested in the question. But as your wish at parting with me, that I should meet with a foul wind, was completely gratified, it was not till last Wednesday that we were able to get ashore at Leith. I got to town on Saturday, and went immediately to the Admiralty, but not finding Lord St. Vincent in town I called on Mr Addington,‡ to whom I gave a full account of what had passed in Sir Hyde Parker's cabin on the 23rd ulto. I have the pleasure to assure you that he was fully satisfied with the propriety of your advice, and of Sir Hyde Parker's ultimate resolution, and that he considers your readiness to take on yourself the responsibility attaching on a deviation from your instructions, as not the least eminent among the services which you have rendered your country in so many years of glory. Mr Addington has since communicated the whole affair to Lord St. Vincent, who equally acquiesces in the propriety of the determination, so that whatever may be the event of the plan (which Providence must decide) you will have the satisfaction

\* With this letter is the following poem, in Lady Hamilton's writing:—

L'INFELICE EMMA, AI VENTI!

'Blow, blow, thou northern wind,  
To LOVE and EMMA kind!  
Ah! come! more grateful far  
Than perfum'd zephyrs are!  
Blow, blow, and on thy welcome wing,  
My Life! my Love! my Hero bring!

'Cease, cease, thou western breeze,  
To wanton, 'midst the trees!  
Ah! cease, awhile, to woo  
The rose, or violet blue;  
And bid the north wind, on its wing,  
Back to my arms my Henry bring!

'Blest, blest, the compass be  
Which steers my love to me!  
And blest, the happy gale  
Which fills his homeward sail.  
And blest the boat, and blest each oar  
Which rows my True Love back to shore.

'And doubly blest the hour  
When love resumes his power,  
And when the northern wind,  
To long-lorn Emma kind;  
Shall change to joy her soul's alarms  
And give back Henry to her arms.'

† Nicholas Vansittart, 1st Baron Bexley, 1766–1851, a well-known statesman, for many years a Member of Administration, and Chancellor of the Exchequer from 1812 to 1823, in which year he was created a Baron.

‡ Henry Addington, 1st Viscount Sidmouth, 1757–1844, a well-known statesman, Speaker of the House of Commons from 1789 to 1801, when he became Chancellor of the Exchequer, First Lord of the Treasury in 1804, created a Viscount in 1805, and Lord-President of the Council.



of meeting with the approbation of those who have the best right to judge of it ; and I need not say, may depend on the confidence of the public.

‘Had not our attention been necessarily turned to a subject of more immediate importance, I should have been happy in the opportunity of suggesting to your Lordship some ideas more directly connected with the business on which I was sent abroad : I mean the measures which it might be proper to adopt in case Denmark or either of the other Northern Courts should apply to the Commander-in-Chief for an armistice, or make any other overtures towards accommodation, either in consequence of those successes which such a fleet under such leaders may be expected to obtain, or of any change of political sentiment. In case the Admiral has received no special instructions on this subject, it appears to me, that he could do no more than receive any proposition which may be made, and transmit them to England ; granting at the same time, if he shall think it advisable, a cessation of arms on such conditions as may enforce the observance of good faith, and secure the conclusion of a treaty conformable to the interests of Great Britain. What pledge it might be proper in each instance to require, you will be best able to judge if the case should occur, but it seems to be essential that the fleet of the Power applying should either be directed to take its orders from the British Admiral, or disarmed and laid up in such a situation as to be nearly at your discretion. It might, for instance, be required that the Danish fleet should retire into the harbour at Copenhagen, that the floating batteries and fortified islands at the entrance should be given up, and the battery on Amack Point, and that under the citadel on the beach, together with the guns of the citadel commanding the harbour, should be dismounted. Similar measures with respect to Carlsroon or Cronstadt might be pursued, but as the surrender of those fortresses would not be attended with the disgrace and irritation necessarily consequent on the capitulation of the capital of a kingdom, there would be less objection to insisting on this being absolutely put into your hands. I am the more induced to submit these ideas to your Lordship’s consideration, as I think it very probable that some overture may come, either from Denmark or Sweden in case you should be able to give such a blow to the Russian navy, and may deliver them from the fear of their powerful ally, and at the same time add to the terror of the British arms. With respect to an attempt on Cronstadt (judging from such plans as I have), I cannot think the difficulties insuperable, especially if the means taken to choke up the Northern Channel are ineffectual, which, from its breadth, I think they must be. It is true that very shallow water is marked at the eastern end, but from the pains taken by the Russians to destroy the passage, I apprehend they must in reality know it to be practicable for large ships. I was more confirmed in this opinion from finding that Etches, who seems the most active and intelligent adventurer I ever met with, and who served some time in the Russian fleet, thinks an attack there by no means difficult. Of that, however, you will before this time have better means of judging.

‘Of domestic affairs I have little to say. The King is getting well ; we hope securely, but too slowly for the wishes of the nation. M<sup>r</sup> Addington, who has been very ill, is nearly recovered. Believe me, my Lord, with the sincerest wishes for your success and happy return, faithfully yours,’ &c.

557. A. L. S. from Lord Nelson to Lady Hamilton. Dated *St. George*, April 9th (1801), 9 o’clock at night. 3 pages 4to., with Superscription, ‘M<sup>rs</sup> Thomson, care of Lady Hamilton.’ [P.]

‘I have received, my dear M<sup>rs</sup> Thompson, all your truly kind and affectionate letters, which I have read over to your ever-dear friend. Really, between your goodness and our dear amiable Lady Hamilton, my mind is kept easy. Your friend was on shore with me to-day to receive the ratification of the treaty of armistice. I received as a warrior all the praises which could gratify the ambition of the vainest man, and the thanks of the nation, from the King downwards, for my humanity in saving the town from destruction. Nelson is a warrior, but will not be a butcher. I am sure, could you have seen the adoration and respect, you would have cried for joy ; there are no honours can be conferred equal to this.

Having done my duty, not all the world should get me out of the ship. No ! I owe it to my promise, and not all the world shall ever make me in the smallest article break it. You are, my dearest M<sup>rs</sup> Thomson, so good, so right in all that you do, that I will take care your dear friend shall do no wrong. He has cried on account of his child ; he begs, for heaven's sake, you will take care that the nurse had no *bad* disorder, for he has been told that Captain Howard, before he was 6 weeks old, had the *bad* disorder which has ruined his constitution to this day. He desires me to say he has never wrote his aunt\* since he sailed, and all the parade about a house is nonsense. He has wrote to his father, but not a word or message to her. He does not, nor cannot, care about her ; he believes she has a most unfeeling heart. I only recommend the example of dear, good Lady Hamilton ; she is a pattern, & do not let your uncle persuade you to receive bad company. When you do, your friend hopes to be killed. I have received all your and Lady H<sup>'s</sup> letters to April 1<sup>st</sup>. I have such short notice, & so many letters to write, that is to Lord Minto & Lord Carysfort,† M<sup>r</sup> Add<sup>n</sup> & Lord St Vincent, with a line to Troubridge. Believe me, my dearest excellent M<sup>rs</sup> Tho<sup>n</sup>, that I am for ever, because I know your worth, most affectionate & devoted till death.'

558. A. L. S. from the same to Adjutant-General Lindholm. Dated *St. George*, April 12th, 1801. 1 page 4to.

'I have to request that His Royal [Highness] will do me the kindness to forward the letter sent herewith to His Sicilian Majesty. As a Neapolitan Minister is at Vienna, if it can be sent to the Danish Minister at that Court he can deliver it either to the Queen or Minister. I congratulate Europe on the death of Paul, and I hope it will stop the war. Will you do me the honour to accept a medal of the action of the Nile. I have one ready for the Academy with a short account of my life, which may not be amiss for youths to study. With every humble duty to His Royal Highness and Prince Christian. Believe me for ever your obliged and affectionate friend,' &c.

559. A. L. S. from the same to the same. Dated *St. George*, April 14th, 1801. 1 page 4to., with Superscription and Seal.

'Will you have the goodness to request His Royal Highness to give me a general order for a passage through any place which may be occupied by Danish troops, as it is my intention, from my state of health, to return to England in a very short time, and probably by Lubec and Hamburgh. If H. R. H. will do me this favor, it will be conferring a great kindness on, my dear Sir, your faithful friend,' &c.

560. A. L. S. (in English) from General Lindholm to Lord Nelson. Dated Copenhagen, April 15th, 1801. 1 page 4to., with Superscription and Seal. [P.]

'I have the honour to send your Lordship a German passport for your intended journey ; but I hope to see your Lordship on board the *St. George* before you set out. His Royal Highness has ordered me to present his compliments to your Lordship.

'We hear to-day the interesting news from Hamburgh, that the Emperor of Russia has offered to give up the English vessels and the English goods detained in Russia, when England will give up the Russian, Danish, and Swedish vessels in her ports. I hope that the northern business will soon be settled. I am,' &c.

\* This is the only occasion on which Nelson called his wife his *aunt*, but he frequently calls Sir W. Hamilton Emma's *uncle*.

† John Joshua, 2nd Baron and 1st Earl Carysfort, 1751-1828, succeeded his father in 1772. He went as Ambassador to Prussia in 1800, and was joint Postmaster-General with the Earl of Buckinghamshire in 1806.



561. A. L. S. from Lord Nelson to his brother Maurice. Dated Copenhagen Roads, April 15th\* (1801). 1 page 4to., with Superscription and Seal. [P.]

'I am glad to find you are in possession of Mr Hartwell's place ; but the neglect shewn me in not having placed you at the Navy Board, is what I cannot forget. We shall see whether the new Administration treats me as ill as the old. I think very likely. Lord St Vincent will either take this late business up with a very high hand, or he will depress it ; but how they will manage about Sir Hyde I cannot guess. I am afraid much will be said about him in the public papers ; but not a word shall be drawn from me, for God knows they may make him Lord Copenhagen if they please, it will not offend me. I only want justice for myself, which I have never yet had, and leave to go home for the re-establishment of my health. What has been done with Peyton?† His son is a fine lad, and behaves well ; say so if you see him. With my best regards to Mrs Nelson, believe me ever,' &c.

562. A. L. S. from the same to General Lindholm. Dated April 15th, 1801. 1¼ pages 4to., with Superscription and Seal.

'I beg you will return to His Royal Highness my humble thanks for his goodness in granting me the passport, in case I should find my health requires my going to England, and I feel infinitely your kindness on the occasion. I shall rejoice that the Northern Powers come to their senses, and no longer try to ruin England. Whenever that is effected, which I pray God may be many centuries, Denmark no longer remains an independent nation. As to the regulation of the neutral commerce of Denmark and of England, you and myself, I am sure, could settle it in half an hour, to the mutual honour and advantage of both kingdoms. The true interests of Denmark and England are so interwoven together, that I say, "May God damn the Minister who strives to separate us, & unite Denmark to Sweden and France, her natural enemies, against her sincere and natural friend, England." I shall rejoice to see you before we sail, but if the wind comes southerly I expect we shall be ordered to England. Ever, my dear sir,' &c.

563. A. L. S. from Mrs. Cadogan to Lady Hamilton. Dated Chester, April 16th, 1801. 1 page folio, with Superscription. [P.]

'I have to inform you that I arrived in Chester yesterday, and am happy to say that I left all friends in Hawarden very well. I mean to stop in Chester 2 days, and then to go to Liverpool and to stop there two or three days, and then I mean to proceed on my journey to Manchester. I beg you will send me Mrs Blackburn's directions, and send me every particular how I am to proceed about the little girl. The next letter you send you must direct for me at Jno. Moore, Moore Street, Liverpool. My sister Kidd and all her family sends their kind love to you, and they are all very well. Give my kind love to Sir William, and accept the same yourself from your loving and aff<sup>te</sup> mother,' &c.

'Sarah sends her love to her mother, and sisters, and brothers, and to you, which, I am happy to say, we are both well.'

564. A. L. S. from Lord Nelson to the same. Dated *Elephant*, Baltic, April 17th, 1801. ½ page 4to., with Superscription and Seal. [P.]

'Once more I am shifted to the *Elephant*, and Captain Foley is so good as to be plagued with me. *St. George* cannot yet be got over the shallows ; and as the Swedish fleet was at sea the 14th, Sir Hyde desired me to shift my flag. For my part, I do not expect to fire another gun ; the Swedes cannot be such fools as to

\* Maurice Nelson died April 24th. With the above letter is his will, dated July 16th, 1794, in which he leaves all his property to 'Susannah Ford (alias Nelson),' with reversion to his brother and nieces.

† Captain John Peyton was created a Rear-Admiral in 1805, and died in 1809.

wait for us. My mind is fixed to be in England the latter end of May ; I hope much sooner. Nothing shall keep me here. I cannot write politicks, therefore can only assure you that I am ever,' &c.

565. A. L. from the same to the same. Dated '*Elephant*, April 20th, 1801, off Carlsrona.' 1  $\frac{3}{4}$  pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'Yesterday, my dearest friend, we saw the Swedish squadron, not at sea, but shut up very snug in their harbour, inside of their batteries ; and what is worse for us, their numerous rocks. Thus all our hopes of getting alongside them is at an end ; they will not trust themselves out again this summer. We are, at least I am, anxiously waiting for news from England, and expect that we shall be ordered to abstain from hostilities against Russia. In that case, if a ship cannot be given me to go to England, I shall land at Lubeck, only one day's journey to Hamburgh, and take a packet to convey me over. Should the worst happen, and that we have no cessation with Russia, all must be finished by the middle of May, and then I will not stay half an hour. Why should I ? No real friend would advise me to it, and for what others say I care not a farthing. My health, and other circumstances, imperiously demand it. I have given up in reason every thing to my country, but the late Ministers have done less for me than any other man in my situation. The Commanders-in-Chief made fortunes by their victories, for which Ministers gave them £1000 a year more than poor Nelson, higher title in the Peerage, and promoted their followers, whilst mine were all neglected, and now, what even the custom of the service and common justice gives me, is attempted to be withheld from me by force of money and influence. The 25th of May is fixed for the day of trial, and it is seriously my interest to be in England on that day. [I hope you will not be gone into Wales, for that would afflict me very much. What signifies the dirty acres to you ? and Sir William & Mr. Greville will not consult you on the granting new leases. I want a real friend to comfort me, and I know none so sincere and affectionate as yourself.] I have this day wrote more pressingly if possible, to Troubridge, about my leave of absence for home. I will go, that is certain. May the God of heaven bless and protect you from all harm is the fervent prayer of,' &c.

'Kindest regards and affections administered to those of our friends and acquaintances as the case requires.'

566. L. S. from the same to General Lindholm. Dated *St. George*, at sea, April 22nd, 1801. 4 pages folio, with Superscription and Seal.

'Commodore Fischer having, in a Public letter, given an account to the world of the battle of the 2nd, called upon His Royal Highness as a witness to the truth of it, I therefore think it right to address myself to you, for the information of His Royal Highness, as, I assure you, had this officer confined himself to his own veracity, I should have treated his official letter with the contempt it deserved, and allowed the world to appreciate the merits of the two contending officers. I shall make a few, and a very few, observations on his letter. He asserts the superiority of numbers on the part of the British ; it will turn out, if that is of any consequence, that the Danish line of defence, to the southward of the Crown islands, was much stronger, and more numerous, than the British. We had only five sail of seventy-fours, two sixty-fours, two fifties, and one frigate engaged ; a bomb-vessel towards the latter end threw some shells into the arsenal. Two seventy-fours, and one sixty-four, by an accident grounded on the Crown islands, and the *Elephant* and *Mars* would have had full employment, and, by the assistance of the frigates, who went to try alone what I had directed the three sail of the line that grounded to assist them in, I have reason to hope they would have been equally successful, as that part of the British line engaged.

'I am ready to admit that many of the Danish officers and men behaved as well as men could do, and deserved not to be abandoned by their Commander. I am justified in saying this, from Commodore Fischer's own declaration. In his letter he states that, after he quitted the *Dannebrog*, she long contested the battle.



If so, more shame for him to quit so many brave fellows. *Here* was no manœuvring ; *it was* downright fighting, and it was his duty to have shown an example of firmness becoming the high trust reposed in him. He went in such a hurry, if he went before she struck, which but for his own declaration I can hardly believe, that he forgot to take his broad pendant with him ; for both pendant and ensign were struck together, and it is from this circumstance that I claimed the Commodore as a prisoner of war. He then went, as he said, on board the *Holstein*, the brave captain of which did not want him, where he did not hoist his pendant. From this ship he went on shore, either before or after she struck, or he would have been again a prisoner. As to his nonsense about victory, His Royal Highness will not much credit him. I sunk, burnt, captured, or drove into the harbour the whole line of defence to the southward of the Crown islands.'

'He says he is told that two British ships struck. Why did he not take possession of them ? I took possession of his, as fast as they struck. The reason is clear—that he did not believe it. He must have known the falsity of the report, and that no fresh British ships did come near the ships engaged. He states that the ship in which I had the honour to hoist my flag fired latterly only single guns. It is true ; for steady and cool were my brave fellows, and did not wish to throw away a single shot. He seems to exult that I sent on shore a flag of truce. Men of his description, if they ever are victorious, know not the feelings of humanity. You know, and His Royal Highness knows, that the guns fired from the shore could only fire through the Danish ships, which had surrendered. and that if I fired at the shore it could only be in the same manner. God forbid that I should destroy a non-resisting Dane ! When they became my prisoners, I became their protector. Humanity alone could have been my object, but Mr. Fischer's carcass was safe, and he regarded not the sacred call of humanity. His Royal Highness thought as I did. It has brought about an Armistice, which I pray the Almighty may bring about a happy reconciliation between the two kingdoms. As I have not the names of all the ships correct, only of the thirteen, including the seven sail of the line which struck, remained at anchor, and fell into my possession after the battle, I shall therefore be very much obliged to you for a correct list of their names, and the number of men, if possible to be obtained, on board each, and the numbers sent from the shore during the action ; my earnest wish is to be correct. And believe me, dear sir, with great esteem,' &c.

567. A. L. S. (marked 'Private') from Alexander Davison to Lord Nelson. Dated St. James's Square, April 22nd, 1801. 3 pages 4to., with Superscription and Seal. [H.]

'Colonel Stewart's return to the Baltic affords me the happy opportunity of writing to you, and with the general voice of this nation to repeat again and again our joy on the most important victory at this particular period ever this country could have obtained. I will refer you to Colonel Stewart for our political news, who will communicate more in ten minutes than I would in hours' writing. I am grieved to find, though, however gratifying the cause, that you are not likely to obtain leave of absence so soon as you expected, or your friends here wished. It is said, the Service absolutely requires your aid in the Baltic, and without *you* nothing would have been done, and that nothing will be effected without you. Taking all this for granted, as I believe it to be true, yet I own I should have been much pleased to hear of your return immediately, as I see nothing now to be done, in which you as *second* can possibly claim that distinct pointed approbation you, in every act of your life, so justly merit. Fighting for the honour of another ought not to be your station, and as Sir Hyde is battling for a peerage, in God's name let him have it and return quietly home, leaving you in the command, if it be determined that you are to remain. I hope it is not true, what I have heard, that it is the intention of the Government to offer you the dignity of Viscount. *That* you ought to have had long ago, and any additional distinction short of an Earldom, in my humble opinion, would be degrading. Your last act of service deserves every acknowledgment which a grateful country (whatever ministers may think)

can bestow. The nation would be gratified to see the highest mark of honour confer'd upon you.'

'I am truly sorry, my dear friend, to tell you poor Maurice is extremely ill, though within these twenty-four hours appearances have taken a favourable turn. Nine days ago he was seized with violent pains in his head, which terminated in an inflammation of the brain.' The instant I was informed of it, I despatched my own physician, Sir John Hayes,\* to attend him, in whom I have the most perfect confidence as a professional character. Sir John this morning informs me he is out of danger, but that it will require time and great care to bring him about. I am vexed my own miserable situation deprives me the satisfaction of being with Maurice. I have Sir John Hayes's regular report twice a day, and it gives me pleasure to know your brother highly approved my sending my own physician. My own health is as good as I could wish it, but my limbs and ancles so extremely weakened that I am unable to walk. A very few days will put me to rights, and the fit be productive of benefit to me.

'Whilst fighting for your country's honour, I must not let you forget yourself, and as the trial in all probability will come before the court about the end of May, I must entreat you to give the different opinions annexed to the case some serious consideration, making such observations and remarks as you think will weigh in the minds of a jury; for though however confident we may, in our own judgments, be respecting the probable issue, yet too great precautions cannot possibly be taken, when we reflect with whom we are to take the field against. Your private observations cannot fail operating most forcibly on the minds of men of common sense, such as I hope will be on the jury.

'If you are certain of being in England at the period, the less necessity for this precaution, but it would wound my feelings were we to fall short of every possible means in our power to strengthen and arm one's council on this important occasion. It hurts me to write a word on business when your mind is so occupied with public duty, yet your own individual interest must *not* be neglected, and I trust you will excuse me.

'Your plate at Rundell's is finished, and a complete case making to contain the whole. I conclude you now would like that it remains until your return. The inclosed letter will, I presume, tell you how matters *stand* in Piccadilly. Several epistles pass daily between us. I conclude Stewart† will call there, and will be the bearer of other packets, as she wrote to me last night, telling me a note had been sent to him to give her a visit.

'May every blessing attend you, and that you may soon return to us, is, and always will be the sincere prayer of my dear friend's affectionate,' &c.

568. A. L. S. from Colonel Stewart to Lady Hamilton. Dated 'Nelson Arms,' Yarmouth, April 23rd, 1801. 3 pages 4to. [P.]

'After your having expressed your intentions yesterday of forwarding under my care the picture to Lord Nelson, I feel quite distressed that it was out of my power to wait longer for it than four o'clock yesterday afternoon, having been dismissed by Lord St. Vincent two hours even previous to that time. I feel alarmed at your Ladyship's not thinking me to be a very civil sort of gentleman, to have thus left town without again calling on you for poor St. Cecilia,‡ but the close manner in which I was kept occupied at the Admiralty, Downing Street, and War Office, after I had the honour of taking leave of Sir William and your Ladyship, really prevented me from so doing. The *Favorite* sloop of war is, however, now here, expecting to be despatched with the duplicate of my

\* Sir John Macnamara Hayes, 1750-1809, had served as surgeon in the army, was one of the Physicians to the Forces, and Physician Extraordinary to the Prince of Wales. He was created a Baronet in 1797.

† Lieutenant-Colonel the Hon. William Stewart, G.C.B., 1772-1827, second son of John, 7th Earl of Galloway, who distinguished himself in the Peninsula War. He wrote an excellent account of the proceedings relating to the Battle of Copenhagen, which was printed in Nelson's *Letters and Despatches*.

‡ Romney's picture of Lady Hamilton.



despatches to the fleet, and if your Ladyship will send the picture in question to the care of Mr Stewart, agent for the Baltic fleet in this town, with directions for its being forwarded by the *Favorite*, or first safe conveyance, that gentleman will do so with care and with pleasure, for I have been speaking to him on the subject. I am anxious that Lord Nelson should have in his cabin so pretty a *cadeau*, as I shall thereby frequently have it in *my* power also to admire this interesting fair one. I shall therefore give our noble friend to expect the receipt of poor Cecilia, and must beg that your Ladyship will forward it, for it will, I am confident, give our hero great pleasure, and if you do not, I shall feel convinced that you are angry with me for not having waited for it. You must excuse this scrawl, written during the hasty moment of embarkation, from an inn, and believe me with much truth,' &c.

569. A.L.S. from Lord Nelson to the same. Dated *St. George*, April 23rd, 1801. 2½ pages 4to, with Superscription. [P.]

'My dearest amiable friend, this day twelve months we sailed from Palermo on our tour to Malta. Ah! those were happy times: days of ease and nights of pleasure. How different, how forlorn! Alas, no wonder I so severely feel the difference, but as we are returning to the anchorage near Copenhagen, I hope a very short time will place me in London. Yesterday Sir Hyde Parker wrote me word that the Russian minister at Copenhagen had sent him a letter, saying the Emperor had ordered his fleet to abstain from all hostilities, therefore Sir H. P. was determined to return to the anchorage near Copenhagen. I am truly anxiously looking out for my leave of absence, or that the whole fleet may be ordered home; stay I will not, if the Ad<sup>y</sup> would make me Lord High Admiral of the Baltic. Don't you think I am perfectly right? If you were to think the contrary it would break my heart, for I have the very highest opinion of your judgment.

['I hope you have had no more pleasures, and that you have lived quiet as you like, if not I hope you have had spirit enough to act properly and decidedly. I will tell you a curious thing. I received a few days ago a present of some ale and dried fish from a person who is naval officer at Leith. He spells his name differently from all *Thompsons* I have seen except one, he spells his Thomson. However, his ale is excellent, and all the Thomsons who spell their name this way that I know are all excellent people. May God bless you, my dearest friend. God knows how this letter goes, or one which is aboard the *London*, under cover to Troubridge, wrote 3 days ago. I daresay they are all read. Who cares? I glory in your regard and affection, and your friendship has been and ever will be, I hope, the greatest comfort of my life.]

'Read the enclosed, and send it if you approve. Who should I consult but my friends? Remember me in the most affectionate manner were proper, and respects and comp<sup>ts</sup> as the person deserves to whom you give them.'

570. A. L. S. from the same to the same. Dated *St. George*, April 27th, 1801. 3 pages 4to, with Superscription and Seal. [P.]

'All your letters, my dearest, best friend, to the 17th, came safe on the eve of your natal day. You will readily conceive the pleasure they must have given me to know you, my dear amiable, still take an interest in my glory. I transfer it all to my guardian angel Santa Emma. Yesterday, I had twenty-four at dinner and drank at dinner in a bumper of champagne, 'Santa Emma.' The fourth toast after dinner came as usual, your mortal part, without a compliment, for I scorn to say what I do not believe, it is that you are an angel upon earth. I am serious. Sir Hyde said that he had seen you at the Opera, and so said his parson secretary, who was at Hamburgh when we were there. I told them I was sure they were mistaken, for I did not believe you had been there! But they were positive, so you see how little fame is to be depended upon. Poor T. is also very angry that his wife should suspect him of infidelity. Damm me, if I do not believe he would die 10,000 deaths sooner, or have even the idea; but my dear friend, there are those who love to do mischief, as they are incapable of doing good. I hope if the fleet is not ordered home to go in the *Blanche*, for both my mind and body are

required in England ; therefore, unless you are sure that we are ordered to attack the Russian forts, it is of no use writing any more letters. I hope to be in London as soon as this letter, and I should like a *good lodging* in an airy situation. I have directed Hardy to take care of all my letters and return them to England. I have so much to tell you that I cannot tell you were to begin. I trust we shall have a general peace, and then nothing shall stop my going to Bronte. May the God of Heaven bless and preserve you, for the sake of your affectionate and attached friend till death,' &c.

'If you are got acquainted *again* with that b—— ! you may say what you please but I never shall answer her or any other woman's letters except yours, my best & only true friend. But you are above mortal, nothing ever did or ever can equal your excellent head, heart, person, and beauty. Bless you for ever ! Curse them that treat you unkindly. Poor T. is gone to Petersburg with Capt. Fremantle, but I can answer that his wife may have the child inoculated, and for his sake I hope it will do well, for his life is wrapt up in the mother and child.'

571. A. L. S. from the same to Sir W. Hamilton. Dated *St. George*, April 27th, 1801. 1½ pages 4to., with Superscription. [H.]

'Ten thousand thanks for your kind letter of congratulation, and I intend to take your hint and go home ; for, as you justly observe, I may be beat, but I can always have one consolation, that it shall be hard work, and whilst I am backed with a just cause and the prayers of all good people, I flatter myself it would be no very easy task. I know mankind well enough to be sure that there are those in England who wish me at the Devil. If they only wish me out of England they will soon be gratified, for go to Bronte I am determined, so I have wrote the King of the Two Sicilies, whose situation I most sincerely pity. I grieve to hear so bad an account of the King, and hope he will yet recover, for all men are fearful of the consequences of those which will follow him. May he live during our lives I sincerely pray ; not that I have any expectation of favours from any of them, having never received anything like one ; but my wish is to have our Country remain quiet, and I fear if we lose the King we may experience great misery. Believe me, as ever, my dear Sir William, your,' &c.

572. A. Verses S. 'Emma,' from Lady Hamilton to Lord Nelson. No date (April, 1801). 2¼ pages 4to. [P.]

'Silent grief and sad forebodings  
(Lest I ne'er should see him more,)  
Fill my heart when gallant Nelson,  
Hoists BLUE PETER at the fore.

'On his Pendant anxious gazing,  
Fill, with tears mine eyes run o'er,  
At each change of wind I tremble  
While Blue Peter's at the fore.

'All the live-long day I wander,  
Sighing on the sea-beat shore ;  
But my sighs are all unheeded,  
When Blue Peter's at the fore.

'For when duty calls my hero  
To far seas, where cannons roar,  
Nelson (love and Emma leaving),  
Hoists Blue Peter at the fore.

'Oft he kiss'd my lips at parting,  
And at every kiss he swore,  
Nought could force him from my bosom,  
Save Blue Peter at the fore.

'Oh, that I might with my Nelson,  
Sail the wide world o'er and o'er,  
Never should I then with sorrow,  
See Blue Peter at the fore.

'But (ah me !) his ship's unmooring ;  
Nelson's last boat rows from shore,  
Every sail is set and swelling,  
And Blue Peter's seen no more.'

573. A. L. from Lord Nelson to Lady Hamilton. Dated *St. George*, May 2nd, 1801. 1 page 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'I am waiting for the sailing of the *Blanche* frigate, which is destined to carry the answers of the next vessel to England, and the vessel we have been expecting every day for this week. I have been so very indifferent, and



am still so weak, that I cannot take the journey to Hamburgh by land, or I should have been off long ago. I shall get on shore the first land we make in England, but as it is likely to be Yarmouth, I should rejoice to find a line of your friendly hand at the 'Wrestler's.' I dare not say much, as most probably all my letters are read. May the God of Heaven bless you, my dearest friend, ever your,' &c.

574. A. L. S. from the same to General Lindholm. Dated *St. George*, May 3rd, 1801.  $1\frac{1}{2}$  pages 4to, with Superscription and Seal.

'I was yesterday evening favour'd with your reply to my letter of the 22nd of April, and I have no scruple in assuring you, that if Commodore Fischer's letter had been couched in the same manly and honourable manner, that I should have been the last man to have noticed any little inaccuracies which might get into a Commander-in-Chief's public letter; and if the Commodore had not called upon His Royal Highness for the truth of his assertions, I never should have noticed his letter. You have stated truly the force which would have been brought into action, but for the accidents of their getting aground, and, except the *Desirée* frigate, no other frigate or sloop fired a gun to the southward of Crown Islands. I have done ample justice to the bravery of nearly all your officers and men; and as it is not my intention to hurt your feelings or those of His Royal Highness, but on the contrary, to try and merit your esteem, I will only say that I am confident you would not have wrote such a letter. Nothing, I flatter myself, in my conduct ought to have drawn ridicule on my character, from the Commodore's pen; and you have borne the handsomest testimony of it, in contradiction to his. I thought then, as I did before the action and do now, that it is not the interest of our countries to injure each other. I am sorry that I was forced to write you so unpleasant a letter; but for the future I trust that none but pleasant ones will pass between us, for I assure you that I hope to merit the continuation of your esteem, and of having frequent opportunities of assuring you how I feel interested in being your sincere and faithful friend,' &c.

575. A. L. from the same to Lady Hamilton. Dated '2 o'clock' (May 5th, 1801). 1 page 4to., with Superscription.

'From all I now see it is not possible that this fleet can be much longer kept here, and I find that, although from others there may be much self, yet Mr. Addington wishes me to have the sweets of seeing this business finish'd. It must soon happen, & I will live to see you once more, and that once will last, I hope, till time, as far as relates to us, shall be no more. We must cheer up for the moment. At present we are in the hands of others; we shall be masters one day or other.

'*Blanche* just going.

'Damn that *fellow* and Lord —. Never see them; may God's vengeance light upon them. I am like the rock of Gibraltar.'

576. A. L. S. (marked 'Private') from the same to General Lindholm. Dated *St. George*, May 6th, 1801. 2 pages 4to., with Superscription and Seal. [H.]

'Yesterday I was going to England for my health, but alas! Colonel Stewart is arrived and reversed the business. Sir H. Parker is gone, and I am here very unwell, so much so, that I am going to sea for the benefit of change of air. I have wrote two letters to Count Bernstorff,\* which I shall thank you to

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\* Christian, Count Bernstorff, 1769-1835, a Danish diplomatist and statesman, Minister for Foreign Affairs from 1797 to 1810. He went as Ambassador to Paris, in 1811, and to Vienna in 1814, and in 1818 passed into the service of the King of Prussia, who made him Minister for Foreign Affairs, which post he continued to hold until 1831.

send ; they relate to some mistake in Norway, about seizing vessels bound to England with corn, for it can never be intended that while Sir H. P. was so good as to allow any quantity to be sent to Norway, that they should seize corn going to England, and by orders they say from Copenhagen, received April 11th. Pray assure His Royal Highness of the readiness I shall have at all times to obey his orders, so far as they are compatible with those of my own superiors, but I have great pleasure that the King and Ministry highly approve of the saving Copenhagen from being laid waste, and for giving time by the armistice for the renewal of our ancient connections and friendship, without which neither of our Countries can be at rest. We are *natural* allies, and it is very *unnatural* when we quarrel. I would cut off that Minister's head that would make a Treaty contrary to the interest of either Kingdom, for in the end it must revert on his own Country. I hope I shall mend, but I doubt it ; but ever your obliged friend,' &c.

577. A. L. S. from General Lindholm to Lord Nelson. Dated 'Copenhagen, May 6<sup>th</sup>, 1801, 7 o'clock in the afternoon.' 1½ pages 4to. [P.]

'I have had the honour to receive your Lordship's letter of this date. I have delivered the letter to Count Bernstorff, who will inform himself about the corn affair in Norway, and he will have the honour to send your Lordship his answer as soon as possible. Count Bernstorff presents his respects to your Lordship.

'I remember that some Swedish ships laden with corn, and bound to England, were seized in Norway, but they were not seized because they were bound to England, but the reason was, that the people in that part of Norway were in such a want of bread, that the King's officers were obliged to buy it, and paid the cargo to the master of the vessels.

'The Prince Regent presents his compliments to your Lordship, and His Royal Highness is very sensible of the attention and kindness which your Lordship has expressed in the letter which I have had the honour to receive this day. I beg you to receive the assurance of the great esteem with which I have the honour to subscribe myself, my Lord,' &c.

578. Doc. S.\* Dated Copenhagen, May 7th, 1801. ½ page folio. [P.]

'These are to certify the principal officers and Commissioners of His Britannic Majesty's Navy, that there were on board of his Danish Majesty's ships, hulks, and prams, which were taken in the action of the 2<sup>nd</sup> April with the British Squadron, 3500 men.'

579. L. from Lord Nelson to Lady Hamilton. Dated May 8th, 1801.

1½ pages folio, with Superscription. [P.]

'As both my friends and enemies seem not to know why I sent on shore a flag of truce, the former, many of them, thought it was a *ruse de guerre*, and not quite justifiable ; the latter, I believe, attributed it to a desire to have no more fighting, and few, very few, to the cause that I felt, and which, I trust in God, I shall retain to the last moment, *humanity*. I know it must to the world be proved, and therefore I will suppose you all the world to me.

'First, no ship was on shore near the Crown batteries, or anywhere else within reach of any shore when my flag of truce went on shore ; the Crown batteries, and the batteries on Amack, and in the dockyard, were firing at us, one half their shot necessarily striking the ships who had surrendered, and our fire did the same, and worse, for the surrendered ships had four of them got close together, and it was a massacre, this caused my note. It was a sight which no real man could have enjoyed. I felt when the Danes became my prisoners, I became their protector, and if that had not been a sufficient reason, the moment of a complete victory was surely the proper time to make an opening with the nation we have been fighting with. When the truce was settled and full possession taken of our prizes, the ships were ordered, except two, to proceed and join Sir Hyde Parker, and in performing this

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\* The Document is signed, 'J. Arenfeldt, H. Lemming, N. W. Andresen, Captains in the service of His Danish Majesty.'



service, the *Elephant* and *Defiance* grounded on the middle ground. I give you verbatim an answer to a part of a letter from a person high in rank about the Prince Royal, which will bear testimony to the truth of my assertions, viz., "As to your Lordship's motives for sending a flag of truce to our Government it never can be misconstrued, and your subsequent conduct has sufficiently shown that humanity is always the companion of true valour. You have done more, you have shown yourself a friend of the re-establishment of peace and good harmony between this country and Great Britain."'

580. A. L. from the same to the same. No date (May 8th, 1801).  
2½ pages 4to. [P.]

'Much having been said relative to the bad terms of the Armistice made with Denmark, I wish to observe, first, that the Armistice was only intended a military one, and that all political subjects were left for the discussion of the Ministers of the two Powers. Peace Denmark cou'd not in the moment make with you, as the moment she made it with you she would lose all her possessions except the Island of Zeeland, and that, also, the moment the frost sett in; therefore there was no damage we could do her equal to the loss of everything; our destruction would have been Copenhagen and her fleet, then we had done our worst, and not much nearer being friends. By the Armistice we tied the arms of Denmark for four months from assisting our enemies and her allies, whilst we had every part of Denmark & its provinces open to give us everything we wanted. Gt. Bt. was left the power of taking Danish possessions and ships in all parts of the world, whilst we had lock'd up the Danish navy and put the key in our pocket; time was afforded the two countries to arrange matters on an amicable footing; besides, to say the truth, I look upon the Northern League to be like a tree, of which *Paul* was the *trunk* & Sweden & *Denmark* the branches. If I can get at the trunk and hew it down the branches fall of course, but I may lop the branches and yet not be able to fell the tree, & my power must be weaker when its greatest strength is required. If we could have cut up the Russian fleet, that was my object. Denmark and Sweden deserved whipping, but *Paul* deserved punishment. I own I consider it a wise measure, & I wish my reputation to stand upon its merits.

'Best regards to Sir William and all our friends, to my brother, Mrs. Nelson, &c. Hardy and Colonel Stewart desire their remembrances.'

581. A. L. S. (in French) from A. Balascheff\* to Lord Nelson.  
Dated Revel, May 12th, 1801. 2 pages 4to. [P.]

'En réponse à la lettre dont votre Excellence vient de m'honorer, j'ai l'honneur de vous informer qu'une chaloupe non armée pour acheter de la viande peut venir à Revel quand vous le jugerez à propos; mais quand à l'escadre de Sa Majesté Britannique que vous commandez, elle ne peut encore approcher de nos rivages à la distance d'un coup de canon jusqu'à ce que le général de division, Baron d'Osten Sacken, reçoive les ordres là-dessus.

'Les dépêches de votre Excellence ont étaient dans le moment envoyés à St. Pétersbourg.

'J'ai l'honneur d'être,' &c.

582. A. L. S. (in English) from General Lindholm to the same. Dated  
Copenhagen, May 12th, 1801. 2 pages 4to. [P.]

'I have the honour to congratulate your Lordship as Commander-in-Chief of the Baltic fleet, and I wish very sincerely that your Lordship may enjoy a perfect health.

'I hear with great satisfaction that Lord St. Helens† is appointed Ambassador

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\* Military Governor of Revel.

† Alleyne Fitzherbert, 1st Baron Saint Helens, 1753-1839, an eminent diplomatist. He was sent to Brussels in 1777, to St. Petersburg in 1783, was sworn of the Privy Council, and made Chief Secretary for Ireland in 1787, went as Ambassador to the Hague, Madrid, and St. Petersburg, in succession, and was created a Baron in 1791.

to the Court of Petersbourg, and that we can soon expect him in our Road, passing on his way to that capital. I hope that the differences between Great Britain and the Northern Powers will be settled in a short period, and that peace and friendship will be established on a firm basis. The English Ministers have shown their inclination to settle things in a satisfactory manner to all trading nations, by making a change with the Courts of Vice-Admiralty in the West Indies, whose conduct in many instances has been highly iniquitous.

'I have the honour to send your Lordship a letter from Count Bernstorff, and I am assured that he has given a satisfactory information about the corn ships in Norway.

'The certificate signed by three officers, of the number of men who were on board the ships on the 2nd of April, is here inclosed, and some letters found on the coast near Kioge.

'I have the honour to remain with the greatest esteem, my Lord, your,' &c.

583. A. L. S. (in French) from Admiral Spiridow to Lord Nelson.

Dated Revel, May 12th, 1801.  $\frac{1}{2}$  page 4to. [P.]

'Conformément au souhait de votre Excellence j'envoy deux pilotes qui montreront une bonne place pour rester à l'encre dans la baye de cheval. J'ai l'honneur d'être,' &c.

584. A. L. S. from J. Wollstonecraft to Lord Nelson. Dated London,

May 12th, 1801. 3 pages 4to. [P.]

'As your illness, when Sir Hyde Parker sailed, prevented my having the honour of seeing you, and being now fearful of intruding on your Lordship's time, I take the liberty of informing you that I passed a winter at Revel some years ago, and also of sending you what local knowledge of that place I was thereby enabled to acquire.

'The breadth of the bay and the situation of the mole will admit of bomb vessels being placed sufficiently near to bombard the ships in the mole, and yet be themselves out of the reach of *point blank shot from all the batteries, viz.;* those to the westward of the mole, those on the two small islands to the north-north-west of it, and from any that may lately have been made (there were none some years ago) on the opposite side of the Bay and at the head of it.

'The mole is near a mile from the town, and is formed by a single wharf, which runs straight out towards the opposite side of the bay; this wharf is mounted with guns, and there is deep water on both sides close to it. The rest of the mole is perfectly open, and presents no obstacles or difficulties to prevent fire-ships sailing right in among the ships, which are ranged abreast of each other with their bowsprits over the wharf. Fireships attempting this service would be but little exposed, as the width of the bay will allow their keeping well to the eastward of the wharf until they are above it; the batteries, supposing any to exist, at the head of the bay and on the eastern side of it, the only ones which would then be able to fire at them, being at a great distance could not prevent them, and the guns on the ramparts of the town could not be pointed at them when in the mole, and previous to their getting there they were too far off, without firing into their own ships, which, from the manner they are placed in order to be in the deepest water, could only fire stern chases at fire-ships approaching them from the head of the bay.

'Supposing your Lordship might wish to cut the ships out of the mole, permit me to say, it appears to me that if the guns on the wharf were silenced, which might be facilitated by ships flanking them from the eastward and southward, in which situation they would only be exposed to the distant fire of the batteries at the head of the bay, and on the eastern side of it men might be landed on the wharf, and from *thence* board the ships and burn them, or get them out if the wind was favourable; for the guns which could be brought to bear on them from the town are but few, and at a considerable distance, and the batteries in the different parts of the bay are still farther off, and a ship placed *close to that part of the wharf which joins the shore* might prevent any fresh troops from coming on the wharf to oppose the landing or to assist the enemy's ships.



‘Should your Lordship be already acquainted with the above particulars, I beg you will have the goodness to excuse my troubling you with them, which I have only done because I have heard different opinions given to Sir Hyde Parker respecting the practicability of attacking, with success, ships at Revel. I have the honour to be your Lordship’s,’ &c.

585. A. L. S. from Rear-Admiral Totty\* to the same. Dated *Zealous*, off Bornholm, May 15th, 1801. 3½ pages folio. [P.]

‘I have the honour to acquaint your Lordship, that I passed over the Grounds with the squadron under my orders, on the evening of the 13th instant, and I joined Captain Murray † upon his rendezvous off the north-east end of Bornholm last night; and agreeably to your Lordship’s directions I have given orders to Captain Murray to take the ships and vessels named in the margin under his orders, and proceed with all possible despatch towards the Gulf of Finland, and endeavour to join your Lordship, agreeable to the best information he can obtain respecting your situation.

‘I have sent some of the small fast sailing vessels with Captain Murray as I think they may be useful to your Lordship. I have received a copy of the orders which your Lordship gave to Captain Murray for the government of the squadron stationed off Bornholm, and your Lordship may rest assured that I shall strictly regulate my conduct thereby.

‘So soon as the *Dart* returns from Dantzick, and I receive any information of the terms upon which fresh beef can be supplied for the use of the squadron, if the price does not exceed the sum your Lordship has stipulated, I shall send the *Alkmaar* thither for a cargo of bullocks; and as I find many of the squadron are short of bread, I shall therefore give directions to the ships which came with me to go to two-thirds allowance of that article, as I find Captain Murray gave similar directions to the squadron left under his orders. As it was necessary to keep the ships as light as possible, in order to pass over the Grounds, they could not take any supply of water in Copenhagen Road, but I understand they may readily be watered at Bornholm.

‘The *Zealous* and *Powerful* have each of them eight guns in their holds, with a proportion of ammunition for the use of the gun-vessels under your Lordship’s command. Fourteen of the guns are eighteen pounders, the other two twenty-four’s.

‘Having so lately transmitted to your Lordship the state and condition of the ships and vessels under my orders, and as Captain Murray will deliver those of the ships and vessels that were stationed off Bornholm, I do not trouble your Lordship at present upon that head. I have the honour to be,’ &c.

‘P.S.—Since writing the above, the *Alecto* fire-ship, Captain O’Brien ‡ has joined me from Leith. He brings no intelligence. Captain Inman has also just been with me, and he gives a sad account of the wants of the gun vessels, &c., under his orders; many of them are in want of fuel and cannot purchase any, as their bills are not negotiable.’

586. A. L. S. (in French) from Admiral Spiridow to Lord Nelson. Dated Revel, May 16th, 1801. 1 page 4to. [P.]

‘La lettre de votre Excellence pour Monsieur le Comte de Pahlen§ sera expédiée dans le moment, et le lougre *L’Alouette* tant qu’il aura besoin de rester

\* Thomas Totty was created an Admiral in 1801, and died of yellow fever in the West Indies in 1802.

† George Murray, 1759-1819, entered the Navy at eleven years of age and took post rank in 1782. He served with Sir John Jervis in the Mediterranean and off Cape St. Vincent, and was in command of the *Colossus* when she was lost on her voyage to England. Under Nelson he led the van of the fleet into action at Copenhagen. Was created a Rear-Admiral of the Blue in 1804 and Vice-Admiral of the Red in 1815.

‡ Captain Edward O’Brien attained the rank of Rear-Admiral in 1805, and died in 1809.

§ Peter Ludwig, Count von Pahlen, 1744-1826, a famous Russian diplomatist, at the date of the letter Governor-General of St. Petersburg, of which office, however, he was deprived a few months later, and retired to his estate in Courland, where he lived until his death.

au port de Reval y recevra de ma part toute l'assistance et politesse qui sera en mon pouvoir.

'Agréés, milord, nos vœux pour l'accomplissement de vos souhaits, qui n'étant pas contraires aux Russes, ne nous empêchent pas de rendre justice au vray mérite. Vous emportés avec vous nos regrets de ce que les circonstances nous privent de cultiver plus longtems votre connoissance. C'est au noms des Messieurs les gouverneurs civil et militaires et les miens que j'écrire. Je voudrois pouvoir exprimer les sentiments d'estime que vous m'avés inspiré. J'ai l'honneur d'être,' &c.

587. A. L. S. from Sir James Crauford\* to Lord Nelson. Dated Hamburg, May 19th, 1801. 2 pages 4to. [P.]

'I had the honour to receive, by the last post from Copenhagen, your Lordship's letter of the 8th instant, accompanying your despatches to Mr. Nepean, and various private letters which I forwarded to England by the first post. Though it is perhaps rather out of time, I cannot but seize this opportunity, the first which I have had, of congratulating your Lordship on the great and glorious event of the second of April. It is my most sincere prayer that you may long continue to adorn that country whose name, already the first in the world, you have so greatly exalted. I desire nothing so much as to have an opportunity of paying you my court in person, an honour I hope you will allow me whenever an opportunity may present itself. In the meantime I beg leave to assure your Lordship of the great respect with which I am, my Lord, your most obedient and very humble servant,' &c.

588. A. L. S. from Lord Nelson to General Lindholm. Dated *St. George*, May 24th, 1801. 2 pages 4to., with Superscription and Seal.

'I cannot again come near you without inquiring after your health, and to request that you will present my humble duty to His Royal Highness, and as I have received wine from the Royal cellar and fruit from the Royal hot-houses, I take for granted they must have been sent by the Prince's order, if so, I beg you will express my grateful thanks. I have had a very long conversation with Lord St. Helens, and being just come from Russia, and the Russian Rear-Admiral Ichitchagoff, being sent by the Emperor to hold a confidential communication with me as low down as the middle of Gothland, where we exchanged, in the name of our united Sovereigns, a friendly declaration, from all these appearances I have a well-grounded hope that Peace will speedily be restored between the Powers of the North and my dear Country. I have had the pleasure of obtaining a shade of His Royal Highness, done some years ago, at Pyrmont, it is a very strong likeness. I beg to present my respects to Count Bernstoff, I am happy His Excellency and Lord St. Helens have had a meeting. With every sentiment of respect and esteem,' &c.

589. A. L. S. from the same to Lady Hamilton. Dated *St. George*, Bay of Rostock, no date (May 26th, 1801). 2½ pages 4to., with Superscription. [H.]

'Although I wrote you late last night by the *Speedwell* all my proceedings to that time, I yet should think myself a great beast if I was to omit an opportunity of writing to you a line by way of Hamburgh, where I am sending off an express to Sir James Crauford. I wrote to the Admiralty yesterday that I did not think I should be able to write any more letters to them, for the stooping so many hours hurts me very much. I trust yet to be in London before June 12th. If the new Admiral would arrive, I should certainly sail in two hours. I have directed the *London* to be the show ship, for I will have no visitors here that I can help. It

\* Sir James Crauford, 1761-1839, succeeded his father as 2nd Baronet in 1798. He was at the date of the letter English President to the Hanse Towns, and in 1803 went as Envoy Extraordinary to Denmark.



is said that the Duke or Prince of Mecklenburg intends to come here to see the fleet, but nothing, you may rely, shall force me to go on shore. [There is but one person, and to that person the Devil himself should not keep me afloat. May God bless and protect you, my dearest, best, most amiable, virtuous friend.] The hock I ordered to be sent by the waggon. The *Harpy* will arrive, I hope, to-morrow. The *Speedwell* will have a good passage. I have ten millions of things to say to you, and I long so to let all out. If Ministers had really thought highly of me they should have given me the command in February, not in May, when I can do no good. I am sure you will comfort poor blind M<sup>rs</sup> Nelson. Whatever you do I will confirm ; and there is an old black servant, James Price, as good a man as ever lived, he shall be taken care of, and have a corner in my house as long as he lives. My uncle left him £20 a-year. Ever yours,' &c.

'This day comes on my great cause against the Earl. May the *just* gain it. [Thomson will be very well when he gets home, and is nursed by his wife, and so you may tell her from me.] I am so glad to hear of your determination not to leave London 'till my arrival. [If Mrs. Denis' young man comes out we will take care of him.']

590. A. L. S. from the Duke of Hamilton and Brandon\* to Lady Hamilton. Dated Grosvenor Place, Saturday, May 30th, 1801. 1 page 4to. [P.]

'As you mentioned the other morning Sir W<sup>m</sup>'s appetite not being quite so good, I am to request you will be kind enough to tell me if there is anything that you think that he prefers, and how he likes it dress'd. All commands of yours will be duly attended to by your,' &c.

591. L. S. (marked 'Duplicate') from Mr. Nepean to Lord Nelson. Dated Admiralty Office, May 31st, 1801. 3 pages folio. [P.]

'I received by the Hamburg mail, through Sir James Crauford, your Lordship's letter of the 7th instant, acquainting me, for the information of my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, of the communication you had had with the Swedish Admiral, and with the determination you had formed of showing yourself with a part of the fleet under your command in the Gulf of Finland, leaving Captain Murray with the remainder off the island of Bornholm. I also received on the 29th instant by the *Harpy* your Lordship's three letters of the 17th, one inclosing a copy of the correspondence which had passed with His Excellency Count Pahlen and the Russian Governor and Admiral at Revel, the other giving information of your having left the bay of Revel, in order to rejoin the squadron off Bornholm, and of the quantity of bread remaining on board the fleet ; I lost no time in laying those letters before their Lordships, and I have received their commands to acquaint you that they cannot but feel some regret that your endeavours to mark your respect for his Imperial Majesty should not have been attended with success, and to desire you will transmit to me a copy of your letter to the Swedish Admiral, to which you have referred in your first-mentioned letter. I have their Lordships' further commands to acquaint your Lordship that vessels are now loaded, and will proceed into the Baltic immediately with a supply of ten weeks' provisions for the fleet, in order that your Lordship may send such instructions to the officer who may be entrusted with the protection of these vessels as may be necessary for his guidance in respect to his junction with you. I have the honour to be, my Lord, your,' &c.

592. A. L. from Lord Nelson to Lady Hamilton. Dated 'St. George, June 1<sup>st</sup>, 1801, 8 a.m.' 1 page 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'My dearest, best, amiable friend,—I have been annoyed to death for an hour this day. The Duke of Mecklenburgh, with his whole Court, men, women, and

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\* Archibald, 9th Duke of Hamilton and 6th Duke of Brandon, 1740–1819, uncle of the 8th Duke, whom he succeeded in 1799.

children, to the amount of 100, I am told, came on board at 2 o'clock, but I got rid of them before three. He is a respectable, venerable man, made 10,000 apologies for the liberty he had taken in bringing so many persons, for he knew that I had forbid it; to which I could only reply that *he commanded*; and having given him two salutes of the whole fleet of 21 guns each, he went off quite happy. He admired your picture most exceedingly, but who does not? [for where can your resemblance be? Not in the world, and may heavens keep you a non-pareil.] At daylight I sail for Kioge to wait the arrival of the new Admiral. [May the God of heaven and earth soon give us a happy meeting, being for ever, and more than] ever your,' &c.

593. A. L. S. from the same to Adjutant-General Lindholm. Dated *St. George*, Kioge Bay, June 5th, 1801. 1½ pages 4to., with Superscription and Seal.

'Lieut. English of the artillery is going to Copenhagen on a visit to his brother who is on his way to St. Petersburg, I therefore beg leave to introduce him to your notice.

'To-morrow, I hope, Colonel Stewart will be able to go to Copenhagen to talk with the Minister or yourself on the fourth article of the armistice, which does not seem in all parts of His Majesty's territory perfectly understood. I should be very happy in the pleasure of seeing you at Kioge, for I am too much indisposed to do myself the pleasure of bringing my humble duties to His Royal Highness, whose kindness I shall never forget, nor how much I feel myself your truly obliged,' &c.

594. A. L. S. from the same to the same. Dated *St. George*, June 7th, 1801. 1 page 4to., with Superscription and Seal.

'As the fourth article of the armistice does not seem clearly understood in many parts of His Danish Majesty's dominions, I have requested Colonel Stewart to go to Copenhagen and talk on the subject, with either the Minister or yourself, as may be necessary. I shall pay a visit to Copenhagen myself, if my health will permit, in order to pay my humble duty to His Royal Highness. In 8 or 10 days I expect to receive letters from Lord St. Helens announcing the peace of the North, and I hope that Denmark will then fix a close alliance with her natural friend. If you come to Kioge nothing will give me greater pleasure than to assure you in person how I feel myself your obliged,' &c.

595. A. L. S. from Colonel Stewart to Lord Nelson. Dated Copenhagen, June 8th (1801). 4 pages 4to. [P.]

'I came here yesterday by water from Kioge through the Amack Channel, which is of an infinitely more intricate description than I had formed to myself an idea of. The greater part of the Strait, which begins across from Draco to the main, is so very shallow as to admit of no vessels of any burden or draft of water above six feet in general, and the shallowest reef begins and seems to go right across at least four miles from this town. Yesterday being Sunday, no Ministers were in town, nor have I yet been able to find either Mr Lizakowitz or Mr Walterstorff\* at home, being not returned from the country. I had, however, occasion to have much explanation with the Governor, the Prince of Wurtemberg, relative to a very cavalier manner in which they sent on board the schooner again one or two of the sailors who had only landed with the *St. George's* officers' clothes, and to the circumstance of every officer being obliged to be attended by a Danish serjeant, if walking the streets. The Prince put everything on the best intentioned footing which I believe he could, but I could not bring matters to much understanding about the unpleasant mode in which our officers were followed by what they call "military attention," until Lindholm went to the Prince about it this morning,

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\* Chamberlain to the King of Denmark.



who has, I find, given directions that every such symptom of jealousy should cease in future.

'I have had fifty reports and informations about the hostility of the Danes towards us, the preparations for future offence, as well as defence, their breach of the armistice by repair and refit of their ships, &c., and have reason to think, from what could be gathered from a good deal of conversation with Lindholm this morning, that the sum total is, the whole nation is enraged at the loss of their colonies, and are certainly carrying on every preparation in their power, as far as relates to land operations, which Lindholm will, I think, explain to your Lordship as a measure of general preparation against the worst which may come on *all* sides. As he intends to be on board the *St. George* to-morrow, I need scarcely trouble you, my Lord, with the substance of our conversation this day, and will only observe, that he seems to feel equally confident of a peace as we do, but cannot help expressing the ill-humoured grace with which it will *now* be received, since the loss (which they pretend to call *unexpected*) of their colonies. To that event, rather than to new instructions supposed to have been conveyed from Petersburg in the Russian brig, is, I believe, to be attributed the hostile feature which every thing has borne within these last ten days. I taxed Mr L. pretty roundly with the circumstance of the refit of their ships, which you will find he will positively deny: I think, however, I shall ascertain before I leave this. As to appearances, they are the same to my eye as when here before; but I have scarcely had a view. I have been contending hard with the old lady of the hotel here, to let me send by this conveyance the last three English papers, but she will not let them leave the club room. I, however, perceive no news in them, and no confirmation of the Guadaloupe surrender. Mr Lindholm has informed me that by the Hamburg mail, which is just arrived, the French are retaking possession of Ehrenbreitstein, and marching 50,000 men into Germany—that the King of Prussia is receding from Hanover—that 10,000 French have been shipped from Ancona into Turkey—and that we are in possession of Rosetta, the Grand Vizir's *advance* being within three days march of that place.

'Mr Balfour promises to send this safe off, and also his newspapers the moment he receives them. I shall proceed to join you, my dear Lord, to-morrow night if the *Blanchisseuse* be expeditious, if not, at least on Wednesday morning, and shall do so with even more pleasure than I always must feel to join you, on this occasion, as the ill-natured and jealous eye, with which we English are now viewed here, is not very tempting to a longer residence among the Danes than is necessary. I have the honor to be, with the greatest respect and gratitude, yours,' &c.

'My head is so annoying with the continuation of my cold, that I fear I have been penning sadly confused stuff.'

596. L. S. from Spiridion Foresti to Lady Hamilton. Dated Corfu, June 10th, 1801. 3 pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'In a letter which My Lord Nelson did me the honor to write to me on the 29th December, and which was an extraordinary length of time on its way, His Lordship desired of me to send to him a remedy for the gout, which he understood was to be obtained here. As His Lordship is at present abroad rendering the most important and glorious services of his country, I beg leave to address your Ladyship upon the subject of the medicine in question, for the information of the Admiral on his return home.

'M. Zerlatti, who discovered the medicine, is here. Upon applying for it, he has informed me that though he is certain of its virtue, it requires many and various trials to be brought to perfection, and he laments that he has, hitherto, been prevented by the circumstances of the times from making such trials. He is, therefore, obliged to decline sending it abroad for the present. I know a person to whom the medicine was administered and recollect to have heard him speak of its efficacy, though he assures me that it was so powerful as to require a strong constitution to support it. M. Zerlatti is certainly a physician of merit, and I am conscious that if he were settled as he wishes, his specific for the gout might

be rendered of general use. I beg leave to enclose a letter which he has written to me in answer to my application for the medicine.

'I cannot let this opportunity escape without expressing how very much I feel obliged to my Lord Nelson, and to Sir William Hamilton for the representation which they had the goodness to make of my services to Government, though the change of Ministry that has since taken place rendered a second representation extremely necessary, yet I should not take the liberty to say anything upon the subject were I in a situation to continue my efforts in the Public Service without assistance from home. I can assure you, Madam, that, in consequence of the misfortunes brought upon me as Consul, during the War, I am involved in great difficulties, and my situation is daily becoming more embarrassed by my stay here, at the desire of His Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople, in order to render those services which I could not render at Zante. Such is the goodness of My Lord Nelson and of Sir William, that I look forward with confidence to the return of the former to England, when I hope that an opportunity may offer of renewing their application to Government in my behalf; upon the success of this measure rests my only hope. I have the honour to be, with the greatest respect,' &c.

597. A. L. S. (in English) from General Lindholm to Lord Nelson.

Dated 'His Britannic Majesty's brig *The Kite*, June 10th, 1801, at noon.' 4 pages 4to. [P.]

'I have this moment received a letter from His Royal Highness the Crown Prince, who has given me orders to communicate to your Lordship that on the evening of the 8th, some English officers were on shore at Copenhagen, from His Majesty's schooner, the *Eling*, and that some dispute had arisen between them and the populace of that city, but fortunately being near the guard, the officers thereof interfered immediately, and prevented any injury being done. The irritation of the people must be occasioned by the capture of our West Indian possessions, and from their idea that the capitulation is severer than they could have expected, considering the nature of the dispute between the two countries, for until that news arrived Sir Thomas Williams, Captain Devonshire, and other officers were on shore, did me the honour to call on me, and walked about the city entirely unmolested, and as a proof that His Royal Highness has endeavoured to prevent any disrespect being paid to the British officers since that time he had ordered that a non-commissioned officer should attend them to interfere in case of need. It gives His Royal Highness pain that this circumstance should have happened, and he certainly will prevent any repetition thereof as much as lays in his power; but His Royal Highness thinks the surest and most effectual manner of preventing it, in the present moment of the displeasure of the people, is, that the British officers should not go on shore at that city until the so much wished for happy reconciliation is settled between the two Courts. I beg your Lordship will excuse my not stating to you personally what I have the honour of writing, for in attempting to land last night at Kiøge, it was so dark we could not find the harbour, and after being three hours in the boat we returned very wet to the *Kite*. I am awaiting the abatement of the wind to go on shore to shift myself, and if the weather is moderate I will certainly wait on your Lordship to-morrow; but if on the contrary it should be stormy, I pray your Lordship will have the kindness to send a small vessel as near the harbour of Kiøge as is safe, in order to facilitate my wish of waiting on your Lordship as early as possible.

'Your Lordship's kind reception of me yesterday, and the great attention and civility I experienced while on board the *St. George*, made that day one of the pleasantest of my life; but all the joy that arose in consequence thereof is damped by this very disagreeable and unpleasant communication which falls to my lot to be the conveyer of to your Lordship, as I assure your Lordship it is my private hope and I am sure it is also that of His Royal Highness, that this unpleasant accident may not be the cause of any coolness or alteration in the harmony that has subsisted since the conclusion of the armistice. With sentiments of the most unfeigned regard, I have the honour to subscribe myself, my Lord,' &c.



598. A. L. S. from Lord Nelson to General Lindholm. Dated *St. George*, Kiøge Bay, June 11th, 1801. 1 page 4to., with Superscription and Seal.

‘As you say that you intend me the favour of coming on board the *St. George*, I will not put my feelings on paper on the subject of your letter. I trust that, if any serious insult has been offered by any persons to British officers, they will be brought to punishment. I expect the *Ealing* schooner here this day. I shall always feel pleasure in complying with the wishes of His Royal Highness, as far as is consistent with my duty as a British Admiral, who is bound to suffer no insult to be offered to the flag of His Royal Master, or one of his subjects to be ill-treated with impunity.

‘With every sentiment of respect and esteem, believe me, dear sir, your obedient servant,’ &c.

599. A. L. S. (in English) from General Lindholm to Lord Nelson. June 11th, 1801. 1 page 4to. [P.]

‘I beg your Lordship will excuse me for not having the honour to wait on you to-day, as I am very unwell, and wish to go to Copenhagen as soon as possible. I hear that a midshipman from the *Eling* is the cause of a little trouble which was of no consequence. I was almost sure that our populace has not been the aggressor, but I will not accuse any man. I hope and I wish that no animosity will exist between two nations who have been friends in many centuries.

‘Permit me, my Lord, to ask if one of our frigates who is arrived in Norway from the Mediterranean can return to Copenhagen? I have the honour to remain, with highest esteem,’ &c.

600. A. L. S. (in English) from the same to the same. Dated Kiøge, Dated Kiøge, June 11th, 1801. 1 page 4to. [P.]

‘I have this moment had the honour to receive your Lordship’s letter, brought me by an officer of the *Kite*. I am very sorry that I cannot, so much I desired, wait on your Lordship, as I am sick, and am going to Copenhagen this evening.

‘Your Lordship may be assured that our Government certainly will punish any man who dared give the least insult to any British subject, and certainly that will never be the case; but I am afraid that perhaps some young men will not always be so cautious as they should.

‘I beg once more that your Lordship will excuse me for not coming. I hope I shall soon have the honour to wait on your Lordship. I am, with sentiments of high esteem and respect,’ &c.

601. A. L. S. from Lord Nelson to General Lindholm. Dated *St. George*, June 12th, 1801. 3½ pages 4to., with Superscription and Seal.

‘I am very sorry to hear you complain of indisposition, but I sincerely hope that a day’s rest will perfectly recover you. As you promise me the favour of coming on board the *St. George* very soon, I will not enter into the subject of what has happened at Copenhagen till that time; I have very much to say on many things which are passing in that city.

‘Respecting my permitting a Danish frigate to pass from Norway to Copenhagen, I beg leave to inform His Royal Highness that I have no power whatever to grant such permission. On the contrary, the Government of Denmark having refused to allow of Norway being included in the armistice, I believe that there would be no impropriety in any English man-of-war attacking them in the ports of Norway, much less if they put to sea, as Denmark has refused the temporary neutrality for that kingdom; but I have no doubt the British Government will do everything of that nature, which His Royal Highness may think proper to ask.

‘Being on the subject of Norway, I think it my duty to ask that it may be given in the name, and by the authority, of the Prince, an assurance that during

the time which Sir Hyde Parker, and since the British Government, have given permission for provisions to be sent to Norway, that no warlike stores have been, or will be, sent into Norway, and that no gun-vessels have, or will be, sent from Norway to Copenhagen, during the time the kindness of the British Government is continued to be received by the Danish Government.

‘Sincerely hoping that each country may see its true interests in uniting closer than ever together, I have the pleasure to subscribe myself, your most obliged and faithful servant,’ &c.

‘Should His Royal Highness wish to send a brig of war to England with dispatches, the Commander had better receive a letter from me, in order to prevent the possibility of any misunderstanding with the British cruisers in the North Sea.’

602. A. L. S. from the same to the same. Dated *St. George*, Kioge Bay, June 13th, 1801. 1 page 4to., with Superscription and Seal.

‘I am sorry that I do not feel authorised to grant protection from detention the ship you did me the favour to write about. Norway, being so entirely rejected by the Danish Government, has been only fed by the kindness of the British Government, and I have likewise the pleasure to tell you that I have received directions to allow to pass the vessels which have passport from Sir James Crauford to sail from the Elbe to the Greenland whale-fishing. I am going to England in about two days, and if His Royal Highness has any despatches or messages for Count Bernstoff, I will take charge of them with pleasure. I hope I shall have the pleasure of seeing you before my departure, and of again assuring you how much I feel myself, dear sir, your faithful servant.’

603. A. L. S. from Captain Louis\* to Lady Hamilton. Dated ‘*Minotaur*, off Alexandria, June 15th, 1801.’ 4 pages 4to. [P.]

‘Altho’ a considerable time has passed since I had the honour of taking my leave at Leghorn, believe me, I have not been backward in my inquiries after your health and Sir William’s, and I have very often thought of writing ; but this country has been so dull since you left it that nothing but misfortunes and scenes of misery have taken place, and the many comforts we used to enjoy at the different places are now vanished, and, I am sorry to say, the French, with all their villainy, have taken possession.

‘I shall ever acknowledge the many kind attentions shewn me by you and Sir William, and I often, very often, regret the change that has taken place, and most sincerely hope the new appointment of Sir William Hamilton will answer his expectation, and which I most sincerely congratulate you both upon. The Governorship of Malta, which we are informed for certain is given to Sir William, may he live many years to enjoy it, and you to partake of every comfort. No doubt by the time he comes out, we shall have peace, and with a little of your good management, things may be brought round in this country, to make it pleasant once more.

‘Our valuable friend, Lord Nelson, has been adding new laurels ; may he live long to enjoy them. I have to lament my not going home, when I might have stood a chance to have been one of his party : I like no better company, I assure you. I hope if this country is to fall, that it will be soon, then no doubt it will be *Minotaur’s* turn to go to old England, when I shall have the pleasure and satisfaction of paying my respects to you and all my friends. I beg my kind remembrance to Sir William and Lord Nelson, when you see him. Miss Knight I had a line from some time since. My best wishes to her and Mrs Cadogan. If I can be of any service to you or Sir William in this part of the world, you have

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\* Captain (afterwards Sir Thomas) Louis, 1758–1807, entered the navy at eleven years of age, served in America, and at the conclusion of the war in 1783, received post rank. He distinguished himself under Nelson at the Battle of the Nile, was made a Rear-Admiral of the White in 1804, again distinguished himself under Admiral Duckworth in the West Indies, and in 1806 was created a Baronet.



only to command me, and believe me with great truth, and every sincere wish your much obliged and obedient humble servant,' &c.

'P.S. Part of our army with Turks, &c., are near Cairo. *I wish they were in it.*'

604. A. L. S. from Lord Nelson to General Lindholm. Dated *St. George*, June 16th, 1801. 2 pages 4to.

'I have been favoured with your letter, and shall always feel the most perfect esteem for you, as I am sure you must be the friend of the two countries—England and Denmark—formed to love and to assist each other. 'The best friends may quarrel; but I trust we never can be real enemies. You forgot to answer my serious question about Norway; for I trust both our nations have been upon honour respecting the armistice: and reports so injurious to Denmark have been brought me—but which I never could give credit to, or I should, of course, have asked some questions—such as, that instead of your fleet remaining precisely in the same state they were at the signing of the armistice, they have been caulked and fitted for service; that even ships have been preparing as floating-batteries; that masts have been put in some of your ships, and many such stories—not one of which I believe, for His Royal Highness has too just a sense of honour to break his word and a sacred armistice, and I am sure neither yourself or General Waltersdorff would have suffered it. The report arose from some Republican rascal, I am sure, that wished to see all Monarchies overturned. May our Monarchs send all Republicans to the devil is my sincere prayer. I beg, with all humility, my humble duty to His Royal Highness; assure him how strongly I have ever expressed myself of his attachment to England, and of his declaration, "that no power on earth should ever make him the enemy of England." I rejoice with you on the near approach of peace between our countries; and it must be all our duties to turn all French Republicans out of our Monarchical Governments. Ever, my dear sir, your most obliged,' &c.

'I hope yet to see you, according to your kind promise, as my successor is not arrived.'

605. A. L. S. from the same to Mrs. Maurice Nelson. Dated July 2nd, 1801. 1½ pages folio, with Superscription. [P.]

'I beg that you will stay at Laleham, with horse, wiskey, and keep every convenience there to make your stay comfortable, and by Michaelmas you can determine as to the mode and manner of your future residence. Nothing, be assured, shall be wanting on my part to make your life as comfortable and cheerful as possible, for believe me, with every respect and regard, your affectionate friend,' &c.

'I send hundred pounds, which you will accept from me.'

606. Copy of Letter\* from the same to Sir John Orde.† No date (July 11th, 1801). 2 pages 4to. [P.]

'I return your pamphlet with many thanks for the perusal. I cannot but see clearly the cause of Lord St Vincent's differences latterly with you—they evidently took their rise from my being sent up the Mediterranean. The order you gave out at Gibraltar in contradiction to the Commander-in-Chief, from the slow approach of the *Princess Royal*, which hurt your feelings, and from the certainly very wrong conduct of Captain Draper and Colónel Desborough relative to the

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\* The first few lines of this letter are in Dr. Nelson's handwriting, the remainder in Lady Hamilton's. It is published in *Pettigrew*.

† Sir John Orde, 1751–1824, entered the navy in 1766, served in America, and was promoted to post rank in 1778. In 1783 he was appointed Governor of Dominica, in 1790 was created a Baronet, in 1795 was made a Rear-Admiral, and in 1798 commanded at the blockade of Cadiz. Some differences with Lord St. Vincent led to his publishing the pamphlet referred to. He was made Vice-Admiral of the Red in 1804, and in 1814 was appointed Admiral of the White. He was one of the pall-bearers at Nelson's funeral.

marine. I can now assure you on my word of honour, that neither Earl St. Vincent nor Lord Spencer were the original cause of my being sent into the Mediterranean. The arrangement was made in April, '97, a year before I was sent. It is plain that neither the First Lord of the Admiralty, nor the Commander-in-Chief, thought it right to tell you the causes which naturally sent me in particular into the Mediterranean; and I verily believe that if Admirals with flags of the main had been in the same situation as yourself, that I shou'd have been equally employ'd in the Mediterranean. I own myself sorry that the pamphlet was ever printed, and am glad that you saw the propriety of calling them in; for if answers had appeared by anonymous writers, you wou'd have had to contend with a shadow. Excuse my observations on your book, and believe me,' &c.

607. A. L. S. (in English) from Count Walterstorff to Lord Nelson.  
Dated Copenhagen, July 13th, 1801. 2½ pages 4to. [P.]

'I learn by the newspapers with great pleasure your Lordship's safe arrival in England, and that your health is so far re-established as to have permitted your Lordship to take again your seat in the House of Lords. We were in hopes that your Lordship would have favoured Copenhagen with a visit, previous to your sailing for England, and I anticipated the satisfaction of finding an opportunity to return my best and respectful thanks to your Lordship for your very kind letter to me of the 16th June, and for the distinguished favour you have conferred on my son, by sending him your picture in a very good print, a sketch of your life, and the medal struck in memory of your Lordship's victory of the Nile. The advice to my son, which accompanied that present from your Lordship's hand, is what my son will, I hope, when six or eight years older, put a still greater value on, and what will make a deep impression on his mind.

'It must give every friend of England and Denmark equally pleasure to see peace and harmony restored between the former Power and those of the North, though, as a Dane, I confess I could wish that my country had been led back to its former connexion with Great Britain in a more gentle manner, and less by the sudden impulsion (if I may be permitted that expression) of another Power. It is, however, always a great consolation to know that we shall enjoy peace, and that short and unfortunate as the war has been for Denmark, it has not shewn the character of the Danes in an unfavourable light.

'I wish very much I could make a trip to England for the sake of my health, and spend next winter at Bath. It would naturally make me still more happy to go there in a diplomatic character, and I flatter myself my conduct would be such as to entitle me to the esteem and confidence of his Britannic Majesty's Ministers; but I suppose that Count Wedel, who before the late unfortunate quarrel between our two Governments, was Envoy-Extraordinary from our Court, will do his utmost endeavours to get re-appointed. I cannot, however, give up the hopes of paying my respects to your Lordship in England, and of renewing to your Lordship the assurance of the high regard I feel for your personal, as well as for your public, character, and of the sincere and respectful attachment with which I have the honour to be, yours,' &c.

608. Doc. S.\* from the Lords of the Admiralty to the same. Dated July 26th, 1801. 9 pages folio. [P.]

'Whereas intelligence has been received that considerable preparations are making by the enemy on different parts of the coast between Dieppe and Ostend, and that a great number of boats and other craft, calculated for the reception of troops, have been collected, particularly at Boulogne and Calais, for the purpose of making a descent on some part of this country; and whereas by our commission bearing date the 24th instant, we have appointed your Lordship Commander-in-Chief of a squadron of his Majesty's ships to be employed on a particular service,

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\* The signatures appended are those of Lord St. Vincent, Admiral Troubridge, Admiral Markham, and the Secretary, Mr. Evan Nepean.



intending to place under your orders the ships of war and craft described in the inclosed list, and such others as may hereafter be sent to you, to be employed in the defence of the mouths of the Thames and Medway, and all that part of the coasts of Sussex, Kent and Essex, comprised between Beachy Head and Orford Ness ; your Lordship is hereby required and directed to proceed without delay to the Nore, and hoisting your flag on board either of the said ships or vessels that you may find there, carry these our orders, and such farther orders and instructions as we may judge it necessary to give you, into execution.

‘On your arrival at the Nore, you will communicate with Vice-Admiral Græme, and inform yourself from him of the arrangements he has already made, and the various orders and instructions which have been given by him to the several Captains and Commanders of the ships and vessels appointed for this particular service, and having gained such information as you may be able, you are to lose no time in satisfying yourself how far the officers so employed are conducting themselves in obedience to those instructions, and whether the ships and vessels are in all respects fitted, stored, and manned, for the performance of the service for which they are designed.

‘And whereas the Corporation of Trinity House has placed a proper number of vessels at the buoys and beacons in the channels leading to the Thames and Medway for the purpose of sinking or destroying them. in the event of the approach of the enemy, and one of its officers to superintend and direct the proceedings of the persons employed on that service ; your Lordship is to arrange such a plan with the officer so employed as may in your opinion be most effectual for that purpose, and in the event of his finding it necessary to cut away and sink the beacons and buoys, to place such craft on the shoals as may be requisite for securing to us the advantage of the navigation.

‘And whereas it is judged expedient that some of the ships and vessels under your Lordship’s command should be placed in the different channels, for the purpose of more effectually obstructing the passage of the enemy into the Thames or Medway, your Lordship is to consider of the stations the best adapted to that purpose, and so station any of the ships and vessels under your command that may be best calculated for that purpose in such channels, giving their Commander the necessary instructions for the regulation of their conduct under the different circumstances that may arise ; and in order the more fully to explain our ideas to your Lordship on this head, we annex a chart, shewing the disposition made of the force employed for the same purpose in the year 1798, with copies of instructions given to the Commanders of some of the ships and vessels so employed, and though we conceive the plan then settled generally to be well deserving your attentive consideration, we do not confine your Lordship to a similar disposition, intending, that you shall, after you have made yourself completely master of the subject at the spot, and taken the opinion of such persons as you may think it necessary to consult, adopt such a plan as, upon a full consideration of all the circumstances, you may judge to be most advantageous for the public service.

‘When your Lordship shall have made your arrangements for defending the passages of the Thames and Medway, and also made a disposition as may appear necessary for the protection of those parts of the coast of Essex and Suffolk within the limits of your command, you will proceed to the Downs, and make such a disposition of the force intended to be actively employed as you may judge most advisable for blocking up or destroying, if practicable, the enemy’s vessels and craft in the ports wherein they may be assembled, or if they should be able to put to sea, for destroying them : in the former case your Lordship will have the advantage of no less than seven bomb vessels, which will be prepared in all respects for service with all possible expedition, but which ought not to be brought into action until, after visiting the coast of France, your Lordship shall be satisfied that they can be employed with effect : in the latter case it must be obvious to your Lordship that by attempting to capture the numerous vessels and craft of the enemy, the object will be totally defeated, and therefore some expedient must be found if they cannot be destroyed, of effectually disabling them, and rendering them incapable, by depriving them of the means of pursuing any direction they would be likely to take even for the purposes of reaching the nearest shore.

'We have ordered the *Amazon* to be prepared for the reception of your Lordship's flag the moment she shall arrive at the Nore, but before she can be ready for that purpose, or indeed at any time hereafter, your Lordship will feel yourself at full liberty to hoist it on board any other ship or vessel of your squadron, and proceed from time to time to those parts either of the coast or of this country within the limits of your station as you may judge most convenient to enable your Lordship to execute the important service entrusted to your care.

'And whereas Admiral Dickson has ordered His Majesty's ship *Ruby* to be placed in Hosely Bay for the purpose of defending that part of the coast, your Lordship is at liberty to send any orders or instructions to her Commander that you may judge necessary, until we shall be able to make such an addition to your force as to enable you to station a proper ship in that bay in her stead.

'When your Lordship shall have arranged the whole of your plan, you are to transmit a copy thereof to our Secretary for our information, and acquaint us, through him, from time to time of your proceedings, and of all occurrences which may take place that may be worthy of our knowledge.

'Given under our hands the 26th July, 1801.'

609. A. L. S. from Mr. Angerstein\* to the same. Dated Lloyd's, July 30th, 1801. 1¼ pages 4to. [P.]

'Fortunately I have had an opportunity of getting acquainted with the manner that your Lordship acquired your last very severe illness, the consequences of which might have been so fatal to the country in the loss of so very valuable a life as that of your Lordship. I informed the committee for the sufferers of the glorious action at Copenhagen the particulars, and they have directed me to inform you that they have voted five hundred pounds to be laid out in plate, in such a manner as you will please to direct, as a small token of their gratitude for the extraordinary exertions of your Lordship in that ever-memorable victory. I am, my Lord, your,' &c.

'P.S. The Committee have voted £60 *per annum* long annuities to Mrs Mosse† and her children, and £500 to Sir T. B. Thompson.‡

610. A. L. S. from Alexander Comelate to the same. Dated Trieste, August 1st, 1801. 2½ pages folio. [P.]

'I had the pleasure in addressing your Lordship, since the month of March past, my humble respects, which I hope safe with your Lordship, and being this a memorial day for me—being this twelve months that we landed here with your Lordship from Ancona, from which place I have been driven away, and all my property hath been confiscated by order of General Muratt, and the famous thief of General Paulett has robbed my house and broke all the best pictures, particularly the *Flagellation* (that was in your Lordship's bedroom in my house) and the *Nativity*, saying, "I leave the frames for your English Lords," &c., tho' very lucky I was to make the escape in company with Hon<sup>ble</sup> Mr Wyndham, and very near lost on board the *Fortune* Neapolitan frigate, for to work out of the harbour of Ancona with N. wind. Mrs Comelate, & two of my eldest daughters here with me; my eldest son, Edm<sup>d</sup>, Mitchman on board His Majesty's ship *El Corso*, three more in the college, and four more girls in the nunnery in the country, far

\* John Julius Angerstein, 1735–1823, a merchant and philanthropist of Russian extraction who settled in England at the age of 15. He entered as an underwriter at Lloyd's, and it was by his exertions and personal influence that old Lloyd's Coffee House was evacuated and the modern Lloyd's established. His collection of pictures formed the nucleus of the National Gallery. The above letter is written in his capacity as a Member of the Committee of Lloyd's.

† The widow of Captain Mosse, who fell in action on the 2nd April.

‡ Captain, afterwards Sir, Thomas Boulden Thompson, 1766–1828, attained post rank in 1790, distinguished himself at the Battle of the Nile, after which he was knighted and had a pension of £300 a year conferred on him. He commanded the *Bellona* in the Baltic, and lost a leg in action shortly before the date of the letter, after which his pension was increased to £500 per annum, he received the thanks of Parliament, and was created a Baronet and G.C.B.



from Ancona. I am here employ'd by His Majesty's ships' commanders in the Adriatic as their agent, and I have been likewise employ'd for the transports for Malta, which are all safe arrived. The present situation of Ancona is in a state of misery in account of the greatest contributions and stop of commerce. The affair of the *Bull Dog* when captured hath been a great mortification to my family when there. The *Mercury* boats were very near to compleat their gallant manœvre, but the wind quite against 'em and the vessel near to the shore, made the Frenchmen retaken the same with their gunboats, and the *Mercury* could not do any assistance whatever to his boats & brave seamen. Two hours after the *Bull Dog* carried into the Port, the French made pay the inhabitants two thousand dollars for damages for cables, &c. 175 my house paid, and they have made a solemn protest, if they shall lose the same, & the three Neapolitan frigates with national colour, the inhabitants, they shall pay for the whole! Is any bestiality in this world more than such bruts upon the hearts?

'The British forces in the Adriatic are the following :—

The <i>Mercury</i>	...	Thos. Rogers, Esq <sup>r</sup> ,	Com <sup>r</sup> & Senior Officer.
The <i>Champion</i>	...	L <sup>d</sup> W <sup>m</sup> Stewart,	ditto
The <i>Greyhound</i>	...	Chas. Ogle,	ditto
The <i>Resource</i>	...	Thos. Crispe,	ditto
The <i>El Corso</i>	...	W <sup>m</sup> Ricketts,	ditto
The <i>Mutine</i>	...	W <sup>m</sup> Hoste,	ditto with his best compliments and respects to y <sup>r</sup> Lordship.
The <i>Renommée</i>	...	W. Kealy,	ditto
The <i>Thetis</i>	...	W. Baker,	ditto
The <i>Strombolo</i>	...	An <sup>w</sup> Thomson,	ditto

'By said Andrew Thompson, your Lordship will receive the enclose letter, left with me the other day before his departure.

'I take the liberty in recommending myself to your Lordship's protection and assistance, & I don't doubt your Lordship will forsee when any place vacant for a Consulship, & will remember me amongst your Lordship's humble servants. I have the honour to be your,' &c.

611. A. L. S. from Lord Nelson to Lady Hamilton. Dated *Medusa*, August 4th (1801), off Boulogne. 1 page 4to., with Superscription and Seal. [P.]

'Buy the house at Turnham Green, I can pay for it. How can you be angry with me? I do not deserve it. Conscious of that, I think no more of your reproaches. Respecting the seal, it is your pleasure that I have it; you said, "She has no right to it," none has a right to me but yourself. I took it as you desired, & now to be abused. But I forgive you, though my heart is almost broken. Damn that Christie, how negligent he has been, for ever your,' &c.

'I have not a moment.

'10,000 kisses were due.'

612. A. L. S. from the same to the same. Dated *Medusa*, Margate Roads, August 7th, 1801. 2½ pages 4to., with Superscription and Seal. [P.]

'Pray send the enclosed for me. I arrived here yesterday evening, and received your kind letters from the Downs of the 5th. I am vexed that such a racket should be made of these trifling things—consider, that when I do my utmost they are boats of fifty or sixty tons; but I ever have done my best. I grieve, my dear Emma, to hear you are unwell. Would I could do anything to comfort you; try and get well. We shall all meet at Naples or Sicily one of these days. I thank Castalcicala for his aff<sup>te</sup> note, and send him an answer. To-morrow morning I go over to Hosely Bay or Har-

wich, to see what is to be done with the Sea fencibles on that coast. I have given directions to Captain Gore\* (or rather requested) not to let anybody come into the ship but who had business with me, for the *Medusa* would be full from morning till [night]. Fifty boats, I am told, are rowing about her this moment, to have a look at the one-armed man. I hope Rev<sup>d</sup> Sir will be satisfied with the new patent, as it is taken from Hilborough on purpose to please him, and if I leave none, he must breed stock from his own place. A letter tomorrow will find me at either Hosely or Harwich; perhaps Troubridge will send it for you. With my best regards to Mrs. Nelson, and the Duke, and Lord William, believe me,' &c.

'Captain Gore is very good to me, for I must be a great plague to him. Parker is very well, and much to do. I delivered your message to Allen. He says he has no fear for his wife whilst she is with you.'

613. A. L. S. from the same to the same. Dated *Medusa*, Harwich, August 10th, 1801. 1 $\frac{3}{4}$  pages 4to., with Superscription and Seal. [P.]

'Your letter from Margate I received last night, and those from the Downs yesterday morning. [I have them all, admire them all, and when you do not scold me I am the happiest man alive, and only rely that I never deserve it. You know my quick temper, and cannot bear false accusations.] Although I cannot get to London yet, I hope that the business of the house will go on. I should think the purchase would be the best, then I should collect all my little matters together. Having arranged all my business here, at noon I am going to the Nore. I may be there two days, but it is impossible to say. I wish I could fix any time or place where I could have the happiness of meeting you, but in my vagabond state I fear it is impossible. I think I could have come to London for a day to arrange about the house, without any injury to the King's service; but patience, my dear Emma, and ever for ever be assured I am,' &c.

'Best regards to the Duke, Lord William, Mrs. Nelson, and all our real friends.'

614. A. L. S. from the same to the same. Dated *Medusa*, at sea, August 14th, 1801. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$  pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'The fever which I had seems fallen in my head, which is much swelled, and my poor teeth pain me very much. I fear my letter will not be in time for the post to-day, and to-morrow likewise, the winds and tides fall out so cross that the vessels cannot get over the same day, therefore, do not expect one; you know I will write and send over if it is possible, but we cannot command the winds & the waves. Do not be uneasy about me, as I told you yesterday there is at this moment no service for a Vice-Admiral; but, my dear Emma, your good heart fancies danger for your friend, and a more true-hearted one does not exist than your faithful,' &c.

'I am obliged to send off the cutter, and have not a moment.

'The cheese arrived safe and excellent. Send to some good wine merchant for three dozen of the best champagne, and order to the Downs by waggon, directed on board the *Amazon*, or I shall have nothing to give you, and that would be shameful in me who receive all good things from you.'

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\* Captain, afterwards Sir John, Gore, 1772-1836, entered the navy very young, and became a Post-captain in 1794. In 1799 he assisted in the capture of the *Santa Brigida* and *Thetis*, homeward bound with treasure from Vera Cruz, and of enormous value, his share alone amounting to upwards of £40,000. This circumstance again occurred in 1804, when his squadron captured three Spanish frigates carrying specie and cargo of the value of upwards of a million sterling, Gore's share being again at least £40,000. He was knighted in 1805, was promoted to be Rear-Admiral in 1813, was made K.C.B. in 1815, Vice-Admiral in 1825, and in 1827 went on a special mission to the Mediterranean after the battle of Navarino.



615. A. L. S. from Captain Ball to Lord Nelson. Dated Minorca, August 17th, 1801. 4 pages 4to. [P.]

'Our friend Hallowell, who has had the misfortune to be captured by Ganteaume's squadron, is arrived here, and will proceed immediately to England, where on his arrival he will pay his respects to your Lordship, and communicate the many interesting naval and military operations which have been transacted since you left us, and he will assure you of the ardent wish of the navy to see your Lordship command once more in these seas.

'I enclose a copy of a letter from Lord Hobart\* expressing his Majesty's approbation of my conduct at Malta, and that he is pleased to give me a thousand pounds for my loss of prize money. Had I not landed at Malta, your Lordship would have given me the same friendly protection and advantage which you gave to the other Captains, who made from eight to sixteen thousand pounds, while I was at Malta; had I remained in the *Alexander* I should have received three thousand pounds for the captures made before Malta. With respect to precedent, Governor Phillip receives £500 a year for his services at Botany Bay. Lord Minto has a handsome pension. I certainly do not put my services in competition with those of Sir Sidney Smith; but when these gentlemen receive such handsome rewards, and I only get one thousand pounds to make up for the loss of several thousand pounds, I must think that his Majesty's Ministers do not know the difficulties I have had to encounter. They have appointed a Mr. Cameron Civil Commissioner of Malta, and the line is distinctly drawn between the civil and military departments. This gentleman has never been in a public situation; he is in distressed circumstances from a mercantile house, in which either he or his father was concerned, having failed. He married a sister of Lord Errol's,† whose interest procured him this situation. The Maltese are astonished at this arrangement, and that so little deference is paid to their wishes, and the great injustice done me; particularly after Mr. Dundas's declaration in his letter to General Pigot, an extract of which I enclose herewith. If Government suppose that the Commissionership is a recompence, I shall regret having applied for it. I have written for leave to go to England, in the hope that I shall, with the assistance of my friends, obtain at least a full indemnification for my losses. Tyson is still at Malta. I shall join him in a few days, and then proceed to Gibraltar. I wrote to your Lordship about him several months since. I am under great obligations to him for the assistance he has given me, which I fear has prevented him joining your Lordship, by which he will be a great sufferer. I believe he has never received a line from your Lordship since your arrival in England.

'Adieu, my dear Lord. My very best respects to my worthy and good friends Sir William and Lady Hamilton. With the greatest respect,' &c.

616. A. L. S. from Lord Nelson to Sir W. Hamilton. No date (Deal, August 19th, 1801). 2½ pages 4to. [H.]

'I have received by Captain Hopkins of the *Speedwell* cutter your letter of the 12th, and I shall be glad to shew him any civility in my power, but I fear, from the nature of his vessel, I shall not have much intercourse with him, as probably he will be stationary, and I am always on the move. I rejoice to hear that your Welsh expedition has given you all the satisfaction you could have expected from it, and I wish I could have met you in Piccadilly, but the Admiralty will not give me one day's leave of absence, although I never thought of my own interest or comfort when they called me forth. But as they have refused me the pleasure of coming to London, they cannot stop you from coming to Deal, which

\* Robert, Lord Hobart, afterwards 3rd Earl of Buckinghamshire, brother of the 2nd Earl, whom he succeeded in 1804, 1760-1816(?), a statesman and diplomatist. Governor of Madras from 1793 to 1797, Secretary of State for War and the Colonies from 1801 to 1804, joint Postmaster-General from 1806 to 1807, and President of the Board of Control from 1812 to 1816.

† William, 15th Earl of Errol, 1772-1819, succeeded his brother, the 14th Earl, in 1798. His third sister Margaret married Charles Cameron, Esq., and died in 1832.

I hope you and our Lady and Mrs. Nelson will do, as soon as your affairs will allow you. It will give me great pleasure, and will delight poor dear little Parker, therefore, for charity's sake come down. My movements are as uncertain as the wind, or rather are directed by the damned French. A number of their boats got into Calais from Dunkirk yesterday morning. Hoping very soon to see you here, and my lady may take the benefit of sea bathing, and if any place may be called stationary for me, it is the Downs. Earnestly hoping soon to see you, believe me, my dear Sir William, &c.

'I beg my compliments to Mr. Greville.'

617. A. L. S. from Colonel Stewart to Lord Nelson. Dated Weymouth Camp, August 21st, 1801. 4 pages 4to. [P.]

'The anxiety and interest with which I have entered into the spirit of your Lordship's late gallant attempt against the Boulogne fleet must apologize for my intruding this letter upon time more seriously occupied than even the perusal of it can, perhaps, afford. I know not how it is, but somehow or other I do not feel comfortable at the not having requested your Lordship more particularly to have taken me with you on the late occasion, although out of my line immediately, and liable to have created jealousy, had I been honoured with anything like a considerable share of friendship; be it as it may, I cannot read your Lordship's letter, accompanied by our dear Parker's, without tears coming in my eyes, and wishing that I might at least have borne some share in the danger which surrounded that gallant young friend of your Lordship's on the late occasion. How true it is that fortune is a capricious dame, and favours our attempts in this world only when she pleaseth. Those only who understand where to attach glory to the attempt and to enterprize, and *not to success*, can fully feel all that they ought to feel, or enter into the grandeur of the action which last Saturday night took place. How strongly does that admirable line in the tragedy of Cato come to our minds, when he says, "'Tis not in man to command success, Sempronius, we'll do more, we'll deserve it." After having been on this occasion not so fortunate as to have been of any use under your command, if chance or situation can still, my dear Lord, bring me, in any manner, with or without *my willing fellows*, into play where you lead, I shall be made one of the happiest of soldiers, for, much as I before wished to accompany your Lordship, more anxious do I feel now than ever, since the Goddess of Fortune has seemed to shew an inclination to be ill-natured, and to dare us to still harder trials. I am an individual who, from my situation in life, and from my turn of feelings upon certain subjects, feel not perhaps more desirous to preserve myself beyond this war than many of my contemporary officers. Without being tired of the world, I, perhaps, attach not that idea of value to it which is so much felt, and am of that turn of mind which induces a man sometimes to look forward to a long, dull, and lingering decline, as in the main less enviable than a more rapid exit from this world, tinged with a moderate degree of honour.

'I am doing my utmost to bring my young regiment here into a state worthy of being called upon by your Lordship, wherever their services may be useful. My Baltic party has at length joined me, and with heartfelt sincerity, (my friend Beckwith at their head,) submit their hopes of remembrance to you. With the same feelings, I beg leave to subscribe myself, &c.

618. A. L. S. from Lieutenant Withers to Lord Nelson. Dated H.M.S. *Kent*, Aboukir Bay, 4th September, 1801. 2½ pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'Presuming on your Lordship's attention to those who formerly have had the honour of serving with you, I am encouraged to trouble you on the present occasion. The surrender of Alexandria, and the entire conquest of the country by the exertions of our army and navy, will, I doubt not, afford your Lordship very great satisfaction.

'It has been my good fortune to tender to a detachment of our army under



Major-General Coote,\* a piece of service that hath called forth the acknowledgments of the General, and have met with the approbation of Lord Keith and Sir Richard Bickerton;† to the latter, and to the Honourable Captain Cochrane,‡ I am under great obligations for the very handsome manner they were pleased to represent my service to the Commander-in-Chief, but excepting the zeal by which I was animated, I am sensible they were over-rated. The copies of the letters which passed on the occasion, I have the honour to enclose, for your Lordship's perusal; they will inform you of the nature and extent of the service I have had the good fortune to perform. It may be proper to observe that the survey and offer to lead his Majesty's ships into a harbour very little known, was a voluntary act of my own, the survey of the channels being at the time a service I was not employed on, or had any connection with.

'Our boats had been driven from the survey of the middle channel by the enemy, and the Arab Pilot had refused to conduct the ships through any other, when it occurred to me that, as the enemy's attention seemed to be directed against the survey of the middle and eastern channels only, the western might be examined without being materially annoyed by the guns of Marabou. I was resolved to try, and was lucky enough to succeed in the attempt, and in consequence had the satisfaction to lead the squadron, under the order of Captain Cochrane, through the shoals to a safe anchorage in the harbour of Alexandria. By transmitting this account to your Lordship, I hope to obtain your approbation of my conduct, as it was under your auspices I entered his Majesty's service, and under whose command I have principally served. I cannot but look forward to a time when I may again have the honour of serving with you. Wishing you the continuance of your health, I have the honour to be,' &c.

619. A. L. S. (marked 'confidential') from Mr. Evan Nepean to the same. Dated Admiralty, September 9th, 1801. 2 pages 4to. [P.]

'A plan has been in contemplation for attempting the destruction of the Dutch squadron at Helvoet, and some communications have taken place with Admiral Dickson§ on the subject. The person whose opinions have been taken is Captain Campbell|| of the *Ariadne*, who, I understand, is an intelligent, enterprising man,

\* General Sir Eyre Coote, 1762–*circa* 1824, entered the army at the age of fourteen, became Captain in 1778, served in America and the West Indies, was made Major-General in 1798, and in 1800 was appointed to command a brigade in the Mediterranean, and conducted the blockade of Alexandria. In 1802 he was elected M.P. for Queen's County, and in 1805 was made Governor of Jamaica. His later life was marred by ill-health and eccentricity, and he was eventually dismissed from the army.

† Sir Richard Hussey Bickerton, 1759–1832, son of Rear-Admiral Sir Richard Bickerton, entered the navy in 1771, and took post rank in 1781, was promoted to be Rear-Admiral of the Blue in 1799, was employed in the blockades of Cadiz and Alexandria, and superintended the embarkation of the French army on the surrender of that place. In 1804 he was made Rear-Admiral of the Red, and second in command in the Mediterranean, from 1807 to 1812 he was one of the Lords of the Admiralty, and was made a full Admiral in 1810.

‡ Admiral Sir Alexander Forrester Cochrane, 1758–1832, younger son of the 8th Earl of Dundonald, became a Post-captain in 1782, and in 1799 was appointed to the *Ajax*, and served under Lord St. Vincent in the Channel, and afterwards in the Mediterranean. He became Rear-Admiral in 1804, and for some time commanded the squadron off Ferrol, in 1806 had a very important share in the battle of St. Domingo, was appointed Governor of Guadaloupe in 1810, and in 1814 to the command of the North American Station. He died suddenly in Paris, and was buried in Père-la-Chaise.

§ At the date of the letter there were two Admiral Dicksons, William and Archibald, brothers, both of whom died in 1803. The one referred to in the letter was probably the younger, Archibald, who was created a Baronet in 1802.

|| Admiral Sir Patrick Campbell, 1773–1841, first distinguished himself by capturing a French frigate at Dunkirk in 1800, which won for him post rank and his appointment to the *Ariadne*. He was made a Rear-Admiral in 1830, Commander-in-Chief at the Cape from 1834 to 1837, was made a K.C.B. in 1836, and became a Vice-Admiral in 1838.

and not likely to take up the subject lightly, being very well acquainted with the port of Helvoet.

‘The inclosed paper contains Admiral Dickson, or rather Captain Campbell’s idea of the nature and extent of the force to be employed on this enterprise. It is wished that your Lordship would consider the subject in all its points, and if you think the plan to be practicable, there will be no difficulty in sending Captain Campbell to you. If it should be agreed to undertake it, your Lordship must leave it to Lord St. Vincent to make some arrangement with Admiral Dickson for placing it under your Lordship’s direction. I cannot send your Lordship the plan of Helvoet to-day, but you shall have a very good one to-morrow.

‘Believe me to be,’ &c.

620. A. L. S. from Lord Nelson to Messrs. Marsh, Page, & Creed. Dated September 15th, 1801. 1 page 4to. [P.]

‘I believe I have wrote before sufficient for you to pay to the order Messrs. Booth & Haslewood, six thousand pounds, in part payment of my purchase of a little farm at Merton. I shall also want money for to purchase several articles. When this money is paid, I will thank you to send me my account. Pray, have you received any pay for me since I went to sea in January? I believe I have drawn for none. If I continue this command much longer, ruin to my finances must be the consequences, for I am called upon, being thought very rich, for everything, beyond any possibility of my keeping pace with my rank and station; but, rich or poor, I shall always consider myself your obliged,’ &c.

621. A. L. from the same to Lady Hamilton. No date (end of September, 1801). 1½ pages 4to., with Superscription (‘Mrs. Thomson, care of Lady Hamilton.’)

‘I came on board, but no Emma. No, no, my heart will break. I am in silent distraction. The four pictures of Lady H<sup>n</sup> are hung up, but alas! I have lost the original. But we part only to meet very soon again; it must be, it shall be. (Turn over.)

‘My dearest wife, how can I bear our separation? Good God, what a change! I am so low that I cannot hold up my head. When I reflect on the many happy scenes we have passed together, the being separated is terrible, but better times *will* come, *shall* come, if it pleases God. And to make one worse the fate of poor Parker. But God’s will be done. Love my Horatia, and prepare for me the farm. If the furniture will suit, we must get other; there are sales every day. My head is almost turned. Continue to love me as Lady Hamilton does; she knows my thoughts, and although this letter is incoherent, yet she will explain it all. May the heavens bless you. Amen, amen, amen.’

622. A. L. S. from the same to the same. Dated *Amazon*, September 21st, 1801, ‘½ past 7.’ 3 pages 4to., with Superscription and Seal. [P.]

‘My letter from Dr. Baird last evening, & from the Assistant-Surgeon at 4 this morning, again revive my hopes of our dear little Parker. He is free from fever, and his stomach got rid of the sickness. He can speak, therefore I hope the blood is forming again, and if the ligature can hold fast he may yet do well. Pray God he may, in which I know you and all with you most heartily join; but I dare not be too sanguine. We have a good deal of swell, and it blows strong, so that I cannot go under Dungeness, indeed, I know of no use I am, either there or here. We can do nothing in future but lay at anchor and wait events. I have wrote Lord St. Vincent strongly on the subject this day. A gale of wind is brewing, and I think our communication with the shore will be cut off. The moon is also eclipsed to-morrow. Would to God I was on shore at the farm. I have sent to Mr. Dods to carry you a list of my things at his



house, and to receive your orders what is to go to the farm. I have not yet any answer from the Admiralty on the subject of my last letter. Make my best regards to Sir William, Mrs. Nelson, Mrs. Cadogan, &c., &c. To the Duke, and all friends of ours, and for ever believe me, your, &c.

'Yesterday, if I could have enjoyed the sight, passed through the Downs 100 sail of West Indiamen. If Sir William had accepted Mrs. Lutwidge's bribe of the ginger, I suppose he would now have got it, for Captain Beresford is arrived. I send you verbatim a postscript of Admiral Lutwidge's letter : viz. "Remember us to your friends who have just left you, when you write, with the sincere regret we felt in parting with them." I shall keep my letter open to the last moment.

'Noon. I have this moment your kind line from Rochester. I grieve at your accident. I am obliged to send my letters now, for I doubt if a boat can go at 3 o'clock.'

623. A. L. S. from Mr. John Graeffe to Lord Nelson. Dated Bronté, September 26th, 1801. 4 pages folio. [P.]

'The letter dated London, July the 5th, your Lordship was pleased to honour me with, I received under cover from General Acton, accompanied by one of his Excellency's own hand-writing, whereof inclosed I have sent a copy, to shew your Lordship the attachment the General has for your welfare. Your letter, my Lord, has not only quieted my mind of the fear that none of my letters had reached London, but it has given both myself and Mrs. Graeffe the most heartfelt pleasure and satisfaction to hear of your Lordship's health, after not only dispersing the Northern cloud that hung so heavy over Great Britain, but also to change the affairs of whole Europe a second time, to the interest and welfare of a country which every unbiassed man must and ought to love and adore. My Lord, I feel proud to have the honour of being thought worthy by your Lordship to take upon me the principal management of the Duchy of Bronté. I shall always think it a glory to sacrifice both health and life for your advantage ; I flatter myself that in a very few years your Lordship will find that my time has not been foolishly employed in the improvement of your estate. It is true, my Lord, and I own it, I am not the man that can augment the income of your estate from six thousand ounces to thirty thousand pounds sterling, either through economical or political means ; of the first I have not aerostatical knowledge sufficient to build castles in the air, and the second I detest abominably.

'Mr. and Mrs. Leckie and sister have made a stay with us above three weeks. Mr. Leckie took an eight days' political excursion ; he had a great inclination to purchase a woody, mountainous estate, not many miles from Bronté ; have since heard the owner will not sell it, better for Mr. Leckie, although he does not think so ; I am sorry for his thoughts. The farming utensils and cask with seeds are not as yet arrived ; Mr. Noble, who had some interest in the ship, informed me that the ship had put in at Mahon, and discharged her cargo there, on account of the peace between France and Naples. I have written to Mr. Noble, and begged of him to do his utmost to get these packages forwarded : I am very anxious about them, particularly the seeds, as the season is already far advanced for sowing. I hope your Lordship's repose from public employments will not be long first, and your glorious and ever-memorable actions hasten a general peace. We are very happy to hear of your intended unexpected visit, together with good company, and to have the honour to kiss that hand which has written the confirmation of this promise ; *this is as true as the Gospel*.

'I hope we shall see your Lordship and company come as gentle shepherds and shepherdesses, and peaceable ploughmen ; rural amusement alone can be the diversion here. I am very happy of the determination to stay some time with us at Bronté. If those gentlemen that have a desire to come out to settle here, with an intent to acquire a fortune by farming, they are mistaken ; but if they are desirous to cultivate and improve a small farm by way of amusement, they may live thereon comfortably without lessening their annual income, and this they must not altogether expect, the first two years they are to study both soil and climate. Your Lordship will please to give me leave to say without reserve several difficulties will arise before a small English family of a decent income can

be fixed or situated comfortably on your Lordship's estate, or, to say more, on any other in Sicily; there is not a house on the farms (a very few excepted), for a decent English family to live in; they are for the most part hovels, it is therefore necessary to build, either by the landlord or the new settler. The farmer in Sicily lives in the town, and so do all the ploughmen and other husbandry workmen, although many of the farms are about six miles distant from the town. This accursed custom, detrimental as it is to the advantage of agriculture, yet does not meet with any reproach. The farmer (except a few industrious ones) lounges half the day about the market-place, and the labourer, if the wind blows a little fresh on the Monday morning, is furl'd up, and does not venture to leave the town to go to work, but stands in the street to listen to a cock-and-bull story; when he moves he is half tired before he arrives at his work. This is another difficulty for a new settler, particularly for an English constitution, not easily to digest. Nothing would give me more pleasure than to have four or five English agricultural families about us, I foresee it would in a short time change this most odious and ignorant system of Sicilian agriculture.

'It is in your power at present, my Lord, to do that for Sicily as a great promoter of agriculture, then what you have done for this island as a great warrior. I shall not trouble your Lordship any longer at present, because your great national employment giveth you little time to attend to private affairs. But I hope your repose is not very distant, as I understand there is great hopes of a peace with France. I shall, in my next letter, my Lord, send you my observations and thoughts of a remedy for the husbandry of this country. Your Lordship may, perhaps, have an opportunity to converse with Arthur Young, Esq., on this subject. Mrs. Graeffier joins me in duty to your Lordship, and I have the honour to be, &c.

624. A. L. S. from Charles Greville to Sir W. Hamilton. Dated September 27th (1801). 3 pages 4to., with Superscription. [H.]

'I see by the papers you and L<sup>d</sup> H. are returned to Town. I hope you left L<sup>d</sup> N. in good health; I make no doubt but your visit was comfort to him. I intended to have wrote to you at Deal, and to have solicited some news. By the preparations on land it is probable that the intention of y<sup>e</sup> enemy, however desperate, is not abandoned. If L<sup>d</sup> N. gets within reach of them, honor will attend him, as at the Nile. I use too cold a term for his glorious achievements, but I have in my mind an anagram which has been handed to me from a clever man at Tenby. I do not know whether he made it out, but it appears a good motto for L<sup>d</sup> Nelson's peerage. *Horatio Nelson* gives the words *Honor est a Nilo*, & it appears so singular a circumstance as to be worth mentioning to you.

'Pray inform me as to Capt. Parker's health. I was much concerned to see in the papers that an amputation had at last been necessary, & his life in great danger.

'I have been unable to move about, & I am now pretty well and think of returning to town. I have not finished Foley's business; I find that the name of Clark is alarming to them. Mr. Foley does not like trouble, and he wishes to buy at the rate the farmers compound with the present renter of tithes. He pays less than he ought to you, and he collects less than he might from the land; it was your idea that the lease should be sold at its full value, not charging any extra to Mr. Foley for accommodation. I tell him I wish to hear on those terms, & if he could name another person, of whom we could agree as to his fitness to value, I made no doubt you would not insist on Mr. Clark. If he does not find such a one, I will send for Clark, and after I have obtained his opinion I will make the tender of the lease to Mr. Foley. If he finds a proper person, & I approve him, &c., I will take his opinion, if Mr. Foley will engage to abide by it also. I wish to oblige him, and I am sure you are induced to sell the lease for that reason, added to the consideration of obtaining a penny for your penny loaf. I do not find the Foleys inclined to let you have the fields at Haberston in full pay<sup>t</sup>, Richard Foley made the purchase for himself and I shall not complicate the business, tho' I wish I could obtain this intermix'd land for you.

'I beg you will remember me to L<sup>d</sup> H. and Mrs. C. When you write to L<sup>d</sup> N., give my best comp<sup>ts</sup> & wishes for his health & happiness.'



625. A. L. S. from Lord Nelson to Lady Hamilton. Dated *Amazon*, September 28th, 1801. 3 pages 4to., with Superscription and Seal. [P.]

'We are going this noon to pay our last sad duties to dear good Parker. I wish it was over for all our sakes, then we must endeavour to cheer up, and although we cannot forget our Parker, yet we shall have the comfortable reflection how we loved him, and how deserving he was of our love. I am afraid his father is but in very indifferent circumstances; but I doubt if the Admiralty will assist him, however, they shall be tried. I hope the Admiralty will direct all the expenses of the lodgings, funeral, &c. to be paid—if not, it will fall very heavy upon me. Pray write me when I am to direct my letters to Merton; is it a post town, or are the letters sent from the General Post Office? I wish I could see the place, but I fear that is impossible at present, [and if I could you would not, perhaps, think it right for me to come now Sir William is away.] I entreat I may never hear about the expenses again. If you live in Piccadilly or Merton it makes no difference, and if I was to live at Merton I must keep a table, and nothing can cost me one-sixth part what it does at present, for this I cannot stand, however *honorable* it may be. May God bless you and believe me,' &c.

'If the wind is to the westward, I shall go to Dungeness, but you must not, by Gore's account, which I send, be surprized at not hearing from me regularly, but you know I always shall write and send when it is possible. I only send this that your dear friendly mind should be easy.

'*Half past one.*—Thank God the dreadful scene is past. I scarcely know how I got over it. I could not suffer much more and be alive. God forbid I should ever be called upon to say or see as much again. Your affectionate letters are just come, they are a great comfort. The worst, thank God, is past. I must have plate, &c., at Davison's, and I agree with you that nothing but what is mine should be there, and that Sir William should always be my guest. I told you so long ago. I will find out what spoons, &c., I have, and send you a list to-morrow, but to-day I am done for, but ever for ever yours,' &c.

'I will write to my Father to-morrow, and take not the smallest notice of how he disposes of himself.'

626. A. L. S. from the same to the same. Dated *Amazon*, September 29th, 1801. 3 pages 4to., with Superscription and Seal.

'I send by the coach a little parcel containing the keys of the plate chest and the case of the tea urn, and there is a case of Colebrook Dale breakfast sett, and some other things. Mr. Dods had better go to the house, for he is Davison's man. Will you have your picture carried to Merton? I should wish it, and mine of the Battle of the Nile. I think you had better *not* have Sir William's books, or anything but what is my own. I have sent in the parcel by the coach this day, two salt-cellars, and two ladles, which will make four of each, as two are in the chest. You will also find spoons and forks sufficient for the present. If sheets are wanting for the beds, will you order some and let me have the bill. I also think that not a servant of Sir William's, I mean the cook, should be in the house, but I leave this and all other matters to your good management. Would to God I could come and take up my abode there, and if such a thing should happen that I go abroad, I can under my hand lend you the house that no person can molest you, not that I have at present any idea of going anywhere but to Merton. Do you take black James? Do as you please. I have no desire one way or the other. Our dear Parker's circumstances are a little out of order, but I have undertaken to settle them if the creditors will give me time, for the poor father is worse than nothing. I have given him money to buy mourning and to pay his passage home again. I trust in God that he will never let me want, for I find no man who starts up to assist me. I can with a quiet conscience when all is gone live upon bread and cheese. Never mind, so long as I have your friendship warm from the heart. I have got some of dear Parker's hair, which I value more

than if he had left me a bulse\* of diamonds. I have sent it in the little box, keep some of it for poor Nelson.

'Noon. Blows strong. I have just received your kind letters, they indeed comfort me, and I hope we shall live to see many, many happy years, & ever your,' &c.

'To the Duke say everything which is kind.'

627. L. S. (in English) from Commander de Witterode to Lord Nelson.  
Dated Hildburghausen, September 29th, 1801. 5 pages 4to.,  
with Superscription. [P.]

'His Britannic Majesty, who sways the scepter with equal mercy and glory, has conferred quintuple honours upon your Lordship. And all Europe, even the enemies of Great Britain, have applauded.

'To recapitulate these honours is superfluous, my Lord ; it is a task which more particularly and more properly appertains to the Historian than to the writer of this official letter.

'His Sicilian Majesty in like manner signalised his royal and friendly munificence, by conferring upon your Lordship very eminent dignities, to which, great even and distinguishing as they are, you, my Lord, add a new lustre by the acceptance of them.

'Your Liege Sovereign, my Lord, has confirmed them. Thus did Her Majesty Queen Anne confirm to the Great Duke of Marlborough the title of Prince of Mindelheim, which the Emperor, immediately after the gain of the battle of Blenheim, bestowed upon him.

'The gaining this signal victory, my Lord, was to Europe in that day what the victory of Aboukir is in the present.

'The former preserved our continent, and saved it from the ambition of Louis XIV<sup>th</sup>. The latter has had the same effect with respect to the Ottoman Empire, and to more than one whole quarter of the globe.

'The Sublime Port on this occasion has most worthily imitated the munificent examples set by the Sovereigns of the Queen of Islands, and of the one which gave birth to Archimedes. Nay, more. An order of knighthood—a distinction, my Lord, unknown under the Turkish government—has been created purposely to crown your triumphs.

'And now, a most illustrious and honourable equestrian body of the western or holy Roman Empire is equally disposed, my Lord, to testify its individual sense—and indeed, that of the whole German body—on account of such bravery, of such distinguished conduct and valour, crowned by the hand of Providence and of prosperous fortune.

'Tis to that end, my Lord, that I am authorised—nay, to a certain degree, commissioned—to inform your Lordship.

'That, in case the Equestrian, Secular, and Chapteral Order of Saint Joachim is well assured that your Lordship will accept the dignity of Knight Grand Commander thereof, it will, my Lord, as an everlasting testimony of the veneration of that illustrious order, be unanimously offered to you.

'This order, my Lord, was instituted, in 1755, by a band of illustrious princes, of nobles of the highest birth, and of officers of the first rank in the German Empire, and in 1790 it was solemnly recognised, and authoritically sanctioned by his Imperial Majesty the late Emperour Leopold the Second.

'At present it is composed of His Highness the Grand Master, of His Excellency the Grand Prior, of twelve Grand Commanders, all persons of the first quality, of seventeen commanders, and forty-two knights, who are all men of distinguished birth, or high military rank, or unquestionable individual merit.

'At this juncture, my Lord, His Highness Charles Ferdinand, reigning Comte

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\* A 'bulse' is a purse or bag for diamonds, and is used in that sense by Macaulay in his *History of England*.



of Leiningen-Westerbourg, possesses or fills the dignity of Grand Master of the Order.

‘In fact, no one can who is not a prince or independent sovereign of the Empire; and such His Highness is, as well as the others. He enjoys his seat and voice in the Diet of the Empire, and, with respect to antiquity, his family, my Lord, is to be classed with the houses of Austria and Nassau previous to their being invested with the imperial dignity. Certain am I, my Lord, that, as far as relates to Chapteral orders, such as that of Malta, the Teutonic, and that of Saint Joachim, which elect their own Grand Masters, it is not necessary I should observe to your Lordship that a gentleman chosen *in Gremic* is allways the Grand Master of the former, and that the same principle prevailed until the 13th or 14th centuries, whenever there was question of giving a chief to the second. It is my duty, however, to observe that such never has been the case with regard to the latter. I therefore repeat again what I have already said, that, in case the Equestrian, Secular, and Chapteral Order of Saint Joachim *is well assured* that your Lordship will accept the dignity of Knight Grand Commander thereof, it will, my Lord, as an everlasting testimony of the veneration of that illustrious Order, be unanimously offered to you.

‘And, my Lord, since the father of your great minister (the late Lord Chatham) did not think it beneath him to accept the freedom of many a small borough or corporate town in England; since the Roman Consuls, Dictators & Emperours did not disdain to take, and to have borne in their triumphs, the civic crown presented to them even by the smallest cities of that once great Republic, and finally puissant empire; and, my Lord, to remount still higher, since the Author of our most holy religion did not consider the mite of the widow unworthy His especial notice; so may we, and so let us hope, my Lord, that this spontaneous, this voluntary tribute of respect and veneration on the part of an illustrious and honourable corps of the German Empire will be deemed worthy of the acceptance of that hero whose valour is surpassed only by his piety, and the constant practice of every social virtue.

‘I have the honour to remain,’ &c.

‘The colour of the ribband is dark green; the star is something like that of the thistle.’

628. A. L. S. from Lord Nelson to Lady Hamilton. Dated *Amazon*, Dungeness, October 2nd, 1801. 3 pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

‘I am sorry the lawyers should have been the cause of keeping you one moment from Merton, and I hope you will for ever love Merton—since nothing shall be wanting on my part. From me you shall have every thing you want. I trust, my dear friend, to your economy, for I have need of it. To you I may say my soul is too big for my purse, but I do earnestly request that all may be mine in the house, even to a pair of sheets, towels, &c. You are right, my dear Emma, to pay your debts—to be in debt is to be in misery, and poor tradespeople cannot afford to lay out of their money. I beg you will not go too much on the water, for the boat may upset, or you may catch an autumnal cold which cannot be shook off all the winter. Wrap yourself up warm when you go out of the house, and for God’s sake wear more clothes when winter approaches, or you will have the rheumatism. I hope you are this moment fixed—damn the lawyers. [I am not surprized at Mrs. Greene’s loving you, who does not? for your heart shows itself in your face, and such a face who must not love?] If black James has no particular desire to come, I can have none to have him, he must be a dead expense. You will do what is right, and I shall be happy in leaving every thing to your management. I don’t wonder Sir William is tired of Warwick Castle. How could he expect to find anything equal to what he left—he might as well have searched for the Philosopher’s Stone. Poor Mrs. Nelson, I pity her. She never was so happy in her life, but the little woman will try and be with you again very soon, and she will succeed. Tell me how I can do anything for you at this distance. You command me, my dear Emma, & I obey with the greatest pleasure. Your letters for the next two or three days may be directed for me here, but after that

to Deal. I have had dear Hardy on board all the morning, he is a good man and attached to me ; indeed, so is Bedford,\* Sutton,† Gore, and others, but these from no interested motive. Make my best regards to Sir William when you write ; and to Mrs. Cadogan say every kind thing, [and I hope, Emma, you take care of your relative ; when you can get her well married & settled we will try & give her something. Ch<sup>s</sup> is a good boy, & your relations are ever those of your affectionate & faithful],’ &c.

629. A. L. S. from Alexander Davison to Lord Nelson. Dated Swarland House, October 3rd, 1801. 2½ pages 4to. [H.]

‘It is very often and justly observed, how serious a misfortune it is to outlive those to whom we have formed an attachment. The loss of poor dear Parker I feel most sensibly, having seen such proofs of the rectitude of his mind—the goodness of his heart—the high sense of honour he possessed—all combined to rivet and cement a friendship I had fondly hoped would have been of long duration. If there be a better world, which we are taught to believe there is, he must be gone there to enjoy it, and possibly relieved of troubles in this, had he survived, as to have involved him in misery. Dear fellow—a more sincerely attached friend you never had, his whole study and delight was how best to secure your approbation of his conduct.

‘I heartily wish you were relieved of your present command, though however honourable it may be, must, if it be continued for any length of time, wear you down with fatigue and incessant anxiety. It will make me very happy when the post bears me a letter of your being superseded.

‘I have been in Scotland with my sister, trying all in my power to support her under the most afflicting calamity, nearly proving fatal to herself.

‘If you have settled for the house in Surrey you write me about, I am sure you must be in want of money to pay for it ; and, lest that should be the case, I have written to my Bankers, Messrs. Vere, Lucadou and Co., to honour whatever bills you may draw on them, with orders to those gentlemen to charge the same to my account. You may draw at sight on them whenever you please. In my absence this will be the easiest mode for you making your payments. We are all well here, and all unite in constant prayer for your happiness. God ever bless and protect you,’ &c.

630. A. L. S. from Lord Nelson to Lady Hamilton. Dated *Amazon*, October 5th, 1801. 3½ pages 4to., with Superscription and Seal. [P.]

‘The weather is getting so very bad, that I doubt whether the letters can be got on shore. I am half sea-sick and much vexed, but still if the Admiralty would send me leave by telegraph, it should go hard but I would get on shore at Ramsgate, or some where, nothing should keep me. It is hard to be kept here, but I should be sorry to quarrel the last few days. Admiral Lutwidge‡ has offer’d to dine at three o’clock, but if I dined it would be almost impossible to get afloat, and all my wish is to get a-shore for good, as the folks say.

[‘I am vexed but not surprized, my dear Emma, at that fellow’s wanting you for his mistress, but I know your virtue too well to be the [——] of any rank stinking king’s evil ; the meanness of the titled pimps does not surprize me in these degenerate days. I suppose he will try to get at Merton, as it lays in the

\* Captain William Bedford was made a Post-captain in 1794, was in the attack off L’Orient, was made a Rear-Admiral in 1812, and a Vice-Admiral in 1821. He died in 1827.

† Admiral Sir John Sutton, 1758–1825. He entered the navy in 1773, first distinguished himself at Bangalore in 1780, and was promoted to post rank in 1782. He served under Lord Hood in the Mediterranean, under Admiral Waldegrave in the Bay of Tunis, and fought at St. Vincent. In 1804 he was made Rear-Admiral of the Blue, and in 1825 rose to be Admiral of the White. In 1815 he was made a K.C.B.

‡ Admiral Skeffington Lutwidge, 1736–1814, one of Nelson’s early preceptors, created a Rear-Admiral in 1794, at one time Lieutenant-Governor of Greenwich Hospital. He died Admiral of the Red.



road, I believe, to Brighton; but I am sure you will never let them into the premises. Your virtue deserves a throne or a peasant, as they may be the children of honor, not of infamy and disease. Do you think we shall soon get to Bronté? I should be very happy, but I must first settle all my affairs in this country, and Merton may become a dead weight on our hands, but more of this hereafter.]

'Thank God it is peace—may the heavens bless us. Say every thing kind to Charlotte\*—hers is a nice innocent letter—and to Mrs. Nelson, and my brother; you know what to say. As to Mr. Addington's giving him any thing, I do not venture to believe he ever will. I never had a kind thing done for me yet. As the Order of Malta will be restored, I suppose now you and Ball will have permission to wear the order; however, you shall abroad. I am vexed that you are so much troubled to get into the house—I wish we were all in it. I shall only come to town on particular business, or to give a vote on some interesting question, and that in order to get something for my brother. I have not yet wrote to my father, but I shall to-day. It rains dreadfully. Pray take care and do not catch cold. You have not told me if you have seen Troubridge. Hallowell will call of course, or he will behave very ill. Mr. Turner desires his thanks for your kind enquiries (for I always say those things for you, as I am sure you do for me), and he will certainly come and see you when he comes to London, and believe me,' &c.

'Your kind letter just arrived—it has quite cheered me up. May the heavens bless you. I always send your remembrances to Admiral and Mrs. L. We must think about Charles and Banti. Charles says he should like to get into a public office, but I shall do everything you wish me for him. Pray God I may soon see you.'

631. A. L. S. from the same to the same. Dated *Amazon*, October 7th, 1801. 3½ pages 4to., with Superscription and Seal. [P.]

'I have just got your letter of yesterday, and am very angry with Mr. Haslewood for not having got you into possession of Merton, for I was in hopes you would have arranged everything before Sir William came home. I shall write Mr. Haslewood to-day on the subject. The Peace seems to make no impression of joy on our seamen, rather the contrary, they appear to reflect that they will go from plenty to poverty. We must take care not to be beset by them at Merton, for every beggar will find out your soft heart, and get into your house. Lord George Cavendish has just been on board to make me a visit before he leaves Walmer to-morrow; if the weather is moderate, I shall return his visit and call on Billy Pitt, as they say he is expected to-day. I intend to land at Walmer Castle. But for this visit I should not have gone ashore till all was finished. Make my best regards to Sir William. I hope he will be able in bad weather to catch fish in the water you so beautifully describe. You must take care what kind of fish you put into the water, for Sir William will tell you one sort destroys the other. Commodore Sutton has been on board all the morning, but dines with Admiral Lutwidge. [Bedford says his wife is an ugly likeness of Mrs. Lutwidge, so you see that ugly women do get husbands, and Sutton is certainly a very good looking man; I recollect S.'s wife is niece to Lord Hotham.†] You will see amongst my things return the round table and the wardrobe—extraordinary that they should return again into your possession. You are to be, recollect, Lady Paramount of all the territories and waters of Merton, and we are all to be your guests, and to obey all lawful commands. What have you done about the turnip field, duck field, &c.? Am I to have them? I wish I could get up for four or five days. I would have roused the lawyers about. The Isis is just coming in—Sutton's broad pendant is to be in her. Yawkins‡ has just been on board, and I delivered your compliments as directed. He always enquires after you and Sir William, and he desires me to say that he wishes Sir William was now here, for

\* Charlotte Mary Nelson, Lady Bridport, Duchess of Bronté, 1787–1873, only daughter of the 1st Earl Nelson. She married in 1810 Samuel, 2nd Baron Bridport. According to the law of Sicily, she succeeded to the Duchy of Bronté.

† Captain Sutton married Frances, eldest daughter of the 2nd Lord Hotham and niece of the 1st. She died in 1836.

‡ See note at page 175.

there were never so many fish in the Downs. The beach for two days has been remarkably smooth—not a curl on the shore. I shall send to Mr. Turner; you will win his heart by your goodness. Your going away made a blank in our squadron. Dr. Baird is very much affected at receiving the cup; it made him really ill, so that he could not come to dinner, but he deserved it for his humanity. Lord St. Vincent never, I dare say, gave him a sixpence. Best regards to Sir William, Mrs. Cadogan, and all our friends. Yours, &c.

632. A. L. S. from the Rev. Edmund Nelson to Lord Nelson. Dated Burnham, October 8th, 1801. 3 pages 4to.

‘Upon the happy return of peace, I may, with a little variation, address you in the words of an Apostle, and say, You have fought a good fight. You have finished your military career with glory and honour; henceforth there is laid up for you much happiness, subject, indeed, in this present time to uncertainty, but in a future state immutable and incorruptible.

‘As a publick character, I could be acquainted only with what was made public respecting you. Now, in a private station possibly you may tell me where it is likely your general place of residence may be, so that sometimes we may have mutual happiness in each other, notwithstanding the severe reproaches I feel from an anonymous letter for my conduct to you, which is such, it seems, as will totally separate us. This is unexpected indeed. Most likely the winter may be too cold for me to continue here, and I mean to spend it between Bath and London. If Lady Nelson is in a hired house and by herself, gratitude requires that I should sometimes be with her, if it is likely to be of any comfort to *her*. Everywhere age, and my many infirmities, are very troublesome, and require every mark of respect. At present I am in the Parsonage; it is warm and comfortable. I am quite by myself, except the gentleman who takes care of the churches. He is a worthy, sensible, sober man, and as far as rests with him, makes me very happy. I cannot do any publick duty, nor even walk to the next house. But, my dearest son, here is still room enough to give you a warm, a joyful, and affectionate reception, if you could find an inclination to look once more at me in Burnham Parsonage. I pray God to continue his blessings in all stations, places, and undertakings,’ &c.

633. A. L. S. from Sir W. Hamilton to Charles Greville. Dated 23 Piccadilly, October 9th, 1801. 5 pages 4to., with Superscription. [H.]

‘I received a letter from you while I was at Warwick Castle, from whence I came yesterday, and found another here on my arrival. I am sorry by the first to find you have been unwell. To answer the business part of the second, I have no objection to finish the affair of the Bishop’s lease and tythes with Foley according to his proposal, with Mr. Hassall, of Kilwin, on his side, and Davies on mine. As to a proper valuation, Davies must be a fool indeed if he cannot prevent my being overreached by Foley’s friend; if he does not know how to judge of land and tythes in Pembrokeshire, he can know nothing.

‘As to making any purchase of land at present, it is far from my thoughts. I see as fast as I get money in my banker’s hands, the housekeeping draughts draw it off. I have a bill for wine only, since we came home, of near £400. I know not what I am to receive from the Treasury, nor when, but a few thousands at my command will always be agreeable, and prevent the dread I have of being dunned in my old age.

‘As to the business of the dock, & your lawsuit, & Mr. Jacob’s bankruptcy, and my giving instructions to Mr. Buck, I am in total ignorance, & therefore do not choose to meddle; whenever you think my name can be of use, as I have a dependance of your knowledge and judgment, I give you leave to make use of it. When you say it will not require less than ten or twelve thousand to compleat the works, I am frightened. You must get out of the scrape as well as you can. Was I rich I should certainly be happy to contribute greatly to the immediate prosperity



of Milford, which, I am sure, will, in a few years of peace (which, thank God, we have now), become a great mercantile town. When I sent Lord Milford's letter to Lord Pelham, I mentioned my having been witness, a few days before, of the abandoned state of the harbour, & danger the ships which were building incurred, shou'd even a French privateer resolve to destroy them; that either a guardship should be immediately sent there, or the purposed fort or battery be immediately raised. I have been ten days at the Castle; I am delighted with the improvements there. There was no visitor but my old friend Fouquier; he went a shooting, and I a fishing, and his Lordship a farming daily. The Avon is either poached to death or spoilt. The lake is too immense for an angler to find where the fish lie. I went to Blaken Mill; I fished Wise's and Greathead's water, I had not 6 bites in 10 days, and caught only 4 jack, the largest  $2\frac{1}{2}$  pounds. Some good perch and such abundance of roach & dace at the mill as cannot be described, & which circumstances convinces me that the fish of prey are not near as plenty as when Nussene and I attacked them 40 or 50 years ago. Your brother often spoke of you with affection, and I told him you did so of him. However, *entre nous*, altho' I was delighted with the local & the charming family, I was bored to death by his Lordship's eternal talk & stories, chiefly of himself, as to strength, bravery, knowledge of improvement, so as to be actually now one of the richest men in England, having paid all his father's & his own debts, & then by a parenthesis (except one to me, which by accident was yet unpaid), and then went on with great composure in the same rhapsody of incoherent boasting. In short, I should be ungrateful if I did not feel the affection shown me, during this visit, from all the family, but it would drive me mad was I obliged to live a month with him; he does not give an echoe fair play. I gave him, however, 2 or 3 hints that he should allow other people to say a word now and then, by which I got in a good story or two of mine, but alas! I fear he is on that part incorrigible, and, as he sees only persons that are bound to listen to him, he will go on talking to all eternity. This is really the true picture. As I believe you know, Emma sent an express with news of peace, by which, tho' I paid, L<sup>d</sup> W. gave the Corporation the news 10 hours before the regular arrival. Yours, &c.

634. A. L. S. from Lord Nelson to Lady Hamilton. Dated *Amazon*, October 13th, 1801.  $3\frac{1}{2}$  pages 4to., with Superscription and Seal.

'Sutton and Bedford would fain persuade me that by the post to-day the Admiralty will give me leave to go on shore. I own I do not believe it, or I should not begin this letter, for I should certainly be at Merton to-morrow at breakfast: but they have no desire to gratify me. Thank God there is no more than 9 days to the cessation of hostilities, after that they can have no pretence. My complaint is a little better, and you cannot think how vexed I am to be unwell at a time when I desire to come on shore, and to enjoy a good share of health; but in this season and in this place it is impossible that I can be free from colds. The wind is set in very raw from the westward. Mr. Turner came and dined with me yesterday, and brought the trumpet with him, and he has charged me to say how much he feels obliged by your kind remembrance of him. This is the first time for five years that he has been on board.

'*Eleven o'clock.* The letters are arrived, and Troubridge tells me not to think of leaving my station, so here I shall stay miserable, shut-up, for I will not stir out of the ship. I told Dr. Baird yesterday that I was determined never to mention to Troubridge's unfeeling heart whether I was sick or well. I wish to my heart I could get to Merton; I had rather be sick there than well here; but, in truth, I am so disgusted that this day I care but little what becomes of me. I have this day received a curious letter from the Order of Joachim, in Germany, desiring to elect me Knight Grand Commander thereof. I shall send it to Mr. Addington, that he may give me his opinion, and obtain, if proper, the King's approbation; this is very curious. Dr. Baird is just come on board. Although I am not confined to my bed, I should be much better out of a frigate's cold cabin; but never mind, my dear friend, I see and feel all kindnesses and unkindnesses towards me. Make my kindest regards to Sir William, Mrs. Cadogan and all friends, and believe me yours, &c.

‘Mr. Pitt has just been on board, and he thinks it is very hard to keep me now all is over. He asked me to dine at Walmer, but I refused. I will dine nowhere till I dine with you and Sir William. I am for ever, my dearest, only friend, yours,’ &c.

‘Sutton and Bedford desire their respects. If I am cross, you must forgive me. I have reason to be so by *great* Troubridge.’

635. A. L. S. from the same to Sir W. Hamilton. Dated *Amazon*, October 14th, 1801. 2 pages 4to. [H.]

‘I am quite rejoiced to hear that you have got possession, and I assure you every study of mine shall be to make you happy in it. I shall buy fish out of the Thames to stock the water, but I bar barble. I shall never forget the one you had cooked at Staines. Sutton, Bedford, Peard, and Hardy, are all determined to come and see us, and I know that, as strangers, you would rather have well-informed sea officers than any country squires, lords, &c. &c. The Admiralty will not let me escape. I have now wrote a public letter, saying, that now the service I was called for (to prevent invasion) is over, I beg their Lordships’ permission to go on shore, as I want repose. Old Yawkins\* dined with me yesterday; he always begs his duty. Your Milford cutter is returned; I had Mr. Hopkins, her Commander, to dinner; he has conducted himself very well indeed; he speaks much of what your Milford must be in a few years of peace. If Mr. Greville is in town remember me kindly to him, and to the Duke and all our friends. Believe me ever, my dear Sir William, your most obliged and affectionate,’ &c.

636. A. L. from the same to the Admiralty. Dated *Amazon*, Downs, October 14th, 1801. 1½ pages 4to. [P.]

‘Their Lordships’ appointment for my particular service being now done away by the preliminary articles of peace, viz., to prevent the invasion of this country, which service I have not only, by their Lordships’ appointing so large a force to serve under my command, been enabled effectually to perform, but also to be able to acquaint you that not one boat belonging to this country has been captured by the enemy; and as my state of health requires repose on shore, I have, therefore, to request that their Lordships will, when they think the service will admit of it, allow me permission to go on shore.’

637. A. L. S. from the same to Lady Hamilton. Dated *Amazon*, October 15th, 1801. 1 page 4to., with Superscription and Seal. [P.]

‘I have wrote by the way of London; but as your letter came regular, mine may go most likely. The Admiralty will not let me move till after the 22nd, and I have got a dreadful cold. I send you a letter for my father; when read, send to London, to be put in the post. I could not say less; I hope you will approve. Forgive my short letter, but the toothache torments me to pieces. Ever yours,’ &c.

‘Sutton and Bedford desire their best respects, and will certainly come and eat your brown bread and butter.’

638. A. L. S. from Sir W. Hamilton to Lord Nelson. Dated Merton, October 16th, 1801. 4 pages 4to. [P.]

‘We have now inhabited your Lord<sup>ship’s</sup> premises some days, & I can now speak with some certainty. I have lived with our dear Emma several years. I know her merit, have a great opinion of the head & heart that God Almighty has been pleased to give her; but a seaman alone could have given a fine woman full power to chuse & fit up a residence for him without seeing it himself. You are

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\* A pencil note to this letter, written by Colonel Greville, conveys the information that Yawkins had been once an outlawed smuggler, who volunteered as pilot to Nelson in the Boulogne expedition when many hung back. Nelson never forgot this service, and procured him an appointment in the Milford packet service.



in luck, for in my conscience I verily believe that a place so suitable to your views could not have been found, & at so cheap a rate, for if you stay away 3 days longer I do not think you can have any wish but you will find it compleated here, & then the bargain was fortunately struck 3 days before an idea of peace got abroad. Now every estate in this neighbourhood has increased in value, and you might get a thousand pounds to-morrow for your bargain. The proximity to the capital, and the perfect retirement of this place, are, for your Lordship, two points beyond estimation; but the house is so comfortable, the furniture clean & good, & I never saw so many conveniencies united in so small a compass. You have nothing but to come and enjoy immediately; you have a good mile of pleasant dry walk around your own farm. It would make you laugh to see Emma & her mother fitting up pig-sties and hen-coops, & already the Canal is enlivened with ducks, & the cock is strutting with his hens about the walks. Your L<sup>ps</sup> plan as to stocking the Canal with fish is exactly mine. I will answer for it, that in a few months you may command a good dish of fish at a moment's warning. Every fish, if of any size, has been taken away, even after the bargain was made, for there are many *Troubridges* in this world, but Nelsons are rare. I think it quite impossible that they can keep you at Deal more than 3 or 4 days longer; it would be *ridiculous*. This neighbourhood is anxiously expecting your L<sup>dp's</sup> arrival, and you cannot be off of some particular attention that will be shewn you, of which all the world know that you have merited above all others. I enclose a letter which I have received from Count Dillon O'Kelly, who supped with me at Coblenzell's\* at Prague. See how your merit is estimated on the Continent, and shame be it that so little justice is done you at home. Be so good as to bring or return the letter, as I must answer it. Adieu, my dear Lord & most sincere friend I have in this world, yours, &c.

639. A. L. S. from Alexander Schenk to the same. Dated No. 5 Dufour Place, Carnaby Market, October 28th, 1801. 2¼ pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'When the dread of almost inevitable ruin presses on a mind unused to the pangs of misfortune, little appologie can be necessary for the confidence which even a stranger may assume at a moment when his tottering character, the sole advantage he yet possesses, has no other support to hope but what his humble intreaties may obtain him from the noble generosity of some unknown benefactor. Upon these pleas, my Lord, I dare to address you, and tho' you may for a while condemn the boldness of a stranger, still I trust you will not refuse me your compassion, too conscious of the very great liberty I take by thus importuning your Lordship, I should be fearful of intruding still more upon your time were I to enter into a detailed enumeration of the different causes that have brought on my present embarrassment which I would submit to your Lordship's consideration with the greatest readiness, could I but dare to flatter myself that this first application would excite the pity of a man whose noble liberallty even exceeds the glory of all his victories.

'For the present it may suffice to assure your Lordship that my confusion has arisen neither from vice or hainous debauch, but merely from imprudence, and is more particularly owing to my invariable attachment to a woman whose former unhappiness and her motherly affection for a child whom she values more than her own life, have so endeared to me that I would with the greatest content rather submit to any disgrace or sufferings than that they should know my distress or feel its horrid consequences. Momentary but immediate relief only can save me from destruction, and the small sum of fifteen or twenty guineas for a space of six months would not only provide for me & those dear objects whose welfare rests on my own means, but moreover leave me time to use my best endeavours for a speedy and compleat arrangement of my affairs which my present situation in a commercial house of the first rank would enable me to do

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\* Louis, Count von Cobenzl or Cobentzel, 1753-1808, an Austrian diplomatist, who took a leading part in the most important negotiations of the period.

ere long, while should my distress unfortunately come to light my character would be totally undone by the exposition of my errors. Thus circumstanced, my Lord, and without a single friend to whom I could apply for help allow an honest hearted stranger to beg for your kind assistance. Did I not feel just fear to appear before your Lordship, I should most certainly have presented this in person ; but since I dare to place my most sanguine hopes on your noble generosity I trust my fervent request will meet with equal condescension, & if I should be fortunate enough to obtain relief and save my honor through your unbounded benevolence, let me assure you before-hand, my Lord, of my most lively and everlasting gratitude, having the honour to sign with great respect.'

640. A. L. S. from Lord Nelson to the Rev. Mr. Hoste. Dated November 21st, 1801. 1 page 4to., with Superscription.

'I beg leave to thank you, and Sir W<sup>m</sup> and Lady Hamilton have charged me to do the same for your munificent gift of game. Your dear son Will<sup>m</sup> has not had justice done him. If I was either Commander-in-Chief in the Med<sup>n</sup>, or first Lord of the Ad<sup>ty</sup> he should be post this day, for no man in the Med<sup>n</sup> has half deserved it so much as Will<sup>m</sup>. Get Lord Cholmondely to ask Lord St. V<sup>t</sup> for the latter, as everybody loves Will<sup>m</sup>. If I had interest I would be truly happy to employ it on such a good occasion. Sir W<sup>m</sup> & Lady Hamilton join with me in every good wish to yourself & family, and believe me, dear sir, yours much obliged.'

641. A. L. S. from Colonel Dillon\* to Lord Nelson. Dated 'Hamburg, chez Vogelbusch, der Neue Hall, No. 32' (December 2nd, 1801). 1½ pages 4to., with Superscription and Seal. [P.]

'I had the honour of writing to you in August last, but as politics are altered since then, my plans are now different and we are come to this town. Your Lordship seemed to interest yourself about me when here, & indeed it is in your power to render me a most essential service. I shall now, at the peace, be put upon half pay, which loss to me will be very material. Also my brother takes no notice of us who is so affluent, which grieves me much, as I have 3 children to maintain and only 200*l.* per ann. from my family. I should hope your Lordship would interest yourself for me, & what would help me & make us happy would be to be named a Secretary of Legation at any court on the Continent, or even a Chargé d'Affaires. Your Lordship could not be refused it by asking Lord Hawkesbury for such a place ; if that cannot be obtained I should be glad to be named a consul anywhere, so that I could get through life to support, & give some education to my children. I can assure you, my Lord, you will not bestow your interest on a person who will feel more grateful than myself. We shall be proud to owe the obligation to so great a character as your Lordship.'

642. A. L. S. from Sir W. Hamilton to Charles Greville. Dated Merton Place, December 5th, 1801. 3 pages 4to., with Superscription and Seal. [H.]

'We were all disappointed at not having the pleasure of seeing you here yesterday, and sorry for the cause. Whenever you can come, with ease to yourself, Lord Nelson desires me to tell you that it will give him the greatest satisfaction. He really loves you. Many thanks for the moor game. We eat one yesterday, and it was excellent.

'I do not see any chance of our being much in town until after Xmas. I shall go to attend my particular business at the Museum or Royal Society occasionally.

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\* Henry Dillon, 1759-1837, third son of the 2nd Viscount Dillon, at one time Colonel of the 3rd Irish Brigade. He married first Miss Francis Trant, by whom he had three children: Charles Henry Dillon, 1808-1890 ; Maria, who married in 1821 His Serene Highness the Duke of Croy Dulmen, and died his widow in 1827 ; and Charlotte.



This air & early hours seems to agree with me, & to get over the winter tolerably in this climate is a great object to me at my time of life, & accustomed to a much better climate. When was Davis to remit the rents due at Michaelmas to Messrs. Coutts? Nothing has yet arrived, and I am living upon one of the 1000*l.* stock sold out, and I find nothing is to be got out of the Treasury; for this reason also I am anxious to finish the business with Foley, that I may not be distressed in looking out for money to pay the current expenses of our house. If we had given up the house in Piccadilly, the living here would indeed be a great saving; but, as it is, we spend neither more or less than we did. My hopes are, that Addington will find out some remedy towards cleansing the civil list, for really at my time of life, & with the idea that Government has handsomely rewarded me for 37 years' services & made up my losses, it is cruel to find myself in the situation I am at present, & should have been worse if I had not kept Mr. Hope's little bit of paper; but you know well all my affairs, & have a much better head for money affairs than I have, & I am sure you will do all in your power to prevent my being unnecessarily distressed.

'Emma expects you here Monday or Tuesday; but come when you think best, & do not risk your health. I have not heard yet from the castle, but indeed the 1st week in December is not quite over. Adieu, yours with true affection,' &c.

'P.S.—If any sort of Catalogue of my books is made out, I should be glad to have it.'

643. A. L. S. from Rev. Edmund Nelson to Lord Nelson. Dated December 13th, 1801. 2½ pages 4to., with Superscription. [H.]

'The little addition you are likely to make to your landed property will, I hope, bring some further pleasure and domestic comfort, such as the real comfort of a private and independent life must consist of, and every event which you are so good as to communicate to me, which is likely to increase your happiness, adds a prop to my declining life, and the little incidents, even of indifference, which Lady Hamilton politely communicates to me, are at all times very acceptable. Your sister's daily care in watching my infirmities, and rendering them as easy as in her power, I feel with delight. She is, as usual, chearful, often regretting not having been able to see you, and even still she and Mr. M[attham] meditate a visit at Merton for a day or two to wait upon Lady Hamilton and yourself, if the weather is tolerably good, and she herself can prudently undertake such a journey five or six weeks hence, when the bairns are all returned to their several academies. The box came safe as did the plaid—very handsome. Lady Hamilton, accept my thanks for her care about it, to whom, with Sir William, present my respects, as also to the whole party. I am,' &c.

'By enclosing a letter now and then, I would not infringe upon your privilege.'

644. A. L. S. from M. Walterstorff to the same. Dated 59 Baker Street, December 16th, 1801. 3 pages 4to. [P.]

'When I left your Lordship last I expected that, having passed a whole day in the most agreeable manner and in the most amiable company, I should find the following days very tedious and disagreeable; so indeed I found them, even more so than I expected, owing partly to my cold and cough being very bad. Your Lordship can easily guess—at least Lady Hamilton can—*who* more particularly has made my stay here unpleasing, to say no more. I have, however, had the satisfaction, in spite of his wishes and predictions, to get everything settled to my satisfaction. Mr. Swinburne has been appointed Commissioner on the part of the British Government to deliver the Danish Colonies to me; he goes out with me in the frigate from Portsmouth. Mr. Addington received me with that affability which distinguishes him. I am, however, much mistaken if I do not owe, in a great measure, the kind reception I met with to the favourable opinion a certain great man has given that Minister of me. Lord Hawkesbury treated me with all the politeness becoming a Minister for foreign affairs, and I have found it a very pleasant and agreeable thing to have business to transact with Lord Hobart, who has

entered into these arrangements which I proposed to his Lordship with great liberality and in the most conciliating manner. I flatter myself that his Lordship has been pleased with my frankness and simplicity. Lord Hobart and Lord Hawkesbury have, both of them, shewn the greatest disposition to fill strictly and honorably the stipulations of the Convention of St. Petersburg. This is all I had to wish.

‘Having nearly completed all my business here, it was my intention to have gone this morning to Merton to pay my respects to your Lordship; but Count Wedel having unexpectedly determined himself to go to Court, I accepted his proposal to present me to-day at the Levee. This has obliged me to give up a more agreeable plan. To-morrow I shall be obliged to go to the Drawing-room. But if no business, that is to say, no rendezvous with any of the ministers interferes, I hope to have the pleasure of taking breakfast with your Lordship on Friday; but I shall be obliged to be back again for dinner, having an engagement for that day. It is my plan to go on Saturday to Hylands and spend a day with my sister, to return on Sunday, and to set out for Portsmouth on Monday. Excuse, my Lord, my having filled two pages of this letter by talking of myself, and by giving your Lordship an acct. of my proceedings. Your Lordship may be assured that nothing but my indisposition, added to a great deal of business, has prevented me from paying you my respects. I am therefore afraid that, having been so long a time without renewing my visit, I shall almost have again become a stranger, if not to your Lordship, at least to Sir William and Lady Hamilton. I must therefore request the favor of your Lordship to remember me to her Ladyship and to Sir William, in the same manner your Lordship used to do before I had the honour of being introduced to them. The sincere regard and respect which I feel for your Lordship will also, I hope, recommend me to your friends.

‘Permit me, my Lord, to renew to your Lordship the assurance of the unalterable attachment with which I have the honour to be,’ &c.

645. A. L. S. from the Rev. E. Nelson to Lady Hamilton. Dated December 21st (1801). 2 pages 4to., with Superscription and Seal. [P.]

‘The intelligence you have troubled y<sup>r</sup> self to communicate to me respecting the lad Cook, vexes me more than a little, as I am concerned that any act of mine should have given any the least anxiety, or for a moment interrupted the domestick quiet of my good son, who is every day so affectionately showing marks of kindness to me; but the idleness of youth, and their easiness of receiving bad examples, are not to be guarded against. The lad’s mother must also be very much greived, and his brother is greatly disapointed by this rash act, who I think is too good a youth to have given any advise so contrary to their mutual interest. But I hope it will blow over, without much blame, on my recommendation, who would avoid whatever should hurt or bring expence upon so good and benevolent a mind.

‘Even the severity of the season, which makes many a poor creature, such as myself, to shake, gives much pleasure to the skating parties, so that I hope all, in their turns, have their hours of enjoyment at a season when all the Xtian world do celebrate with songs of praise the return of Xmas. Long may you all feel the happy influence of such an event *here*, and the inestimable benefit of it hereafter.

‘My son will excuse my asking him to direct the enclosed: “Mrs. Cook, Spread Eagle, Ipswich, Suffolk.”’

646. A. L. S. from Mr. H. Ross\* to Lord Nelson. Dated Rossie Castle, N. B., December 23rd, 1801. 3½ pages 4to. [P.]

‘Ten thousand thanks for my dearest friend’s kind letter of the 17th. The

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\* Mr. Hercules Ross was a Jamaica friend of Lord Nelson’s, and whose son was Nelson’s godson.



intention of receiving Mr. Macdonald's visit I receive as a proof of friendship, and highly gratifying to my feelings. At the same time, my dear Lord, do not conceive the introduction much more than a matter I could not without rudeness refuse to the very pressing solicitude of a father ; by this I would not be understood to damp the son's interest, when it can be conveniently promoted, but that I would not for any consideration, have your Lordship *urged* to ask any favour, and this hint I have been anxious to convey, without loss of time, having experienced myself the length to which Mr. Macdonald's zeal will carry him in his son's cause ; and having taken the liberty of introducing this gentleman, I think it proper, before dropping the subject, to again repeat that I have always considered him very communicative, intelligent, and certainly a man of honor.

'As I trust it is unnecessary for me to be very reserved, I now proceed to observe that some hints in your Lordship's letter have given me uneasiness. I think I perceive all is not well, and that my noble friend is not so completely happy as I ardently wish him.

'No interest, and only looking forward to another war to attain that to which you are so well entitled by your glorious achievements ! I don't understand this, but I understand perfectly that there is but one voice in the nation, and that loudly proclaims to you the first and most honourable place in its annals.

'Betwixt ourselves, I wish we were a little nearer together. I have the vanity to think that that judgement and knowledge of mankind which you formerly thought well of hasn't yet suffered any decay.

'Although an overmatch for the enemies of your country, you are not so for the d—d insidious arts in many public departments. Look into history, and you will find this to have been eternally the case with the heroes in every age.

'I mark your letter dated Merton—a villa, I suppose. I would it had been from Norfolk Estate, by Norwich, which, I see, is advertised for sale ; that would have been a fine & valuable field for employing your leisure. Most of the London villas are pick-pocket possessions.

'Just about your Lordship's time of life I commenced farming. Happily I had purchased a good subject to work upon ; however, in process of time it exhausted my funds. New houses to all the farms, of a superior kind, were first constructed. A new mansion, in the ancient castle style ; new church to correspond ; and public roads and bridges came in for a share. We are now promoting the commencement of a new town upon a small island of ours, where we have—or rather our father, Mr. Parish, has—enabled, by a loan, a company of merchants to erect a capital dry dock, and to begin a shipbuilding establishment. It is formed, the island, by an inlet of the N<sup>o</sup> Sea of abundant depth of water.

'I have insensibly been led into this detail, but as much as to say that into a similar pursuit I would wish to see your attention directed, and, for a time, distant from courts & that busy haunt of men—London. And yet, altho' thus recommending, to that same place my good wife thinks of carrying me, three or four months hence, in compliment to our eldest daughter, now in her 15th year, who has had the benefit of the first masters on the Continent for music and languages, and now Mrs. Ross is desirous of having a few weeks of the most eminent London ones.

'So ! here again, my Lord, you are introduced to our domestic business, and who knows but I may have your Lordship's company in bringing the ladies back to their quiet home ; & for your encouragement I can truly say it has ever been to me an happy one, and I believe one more so will rarely be found. In fact, your Lordship's handsome eulogium on the parents of darling Horatio, has prompted me to be so very communicative. Mrs. Ross desires me to say she regrets your Lordship's having made the smallest apology for not writing, and here let me be clearly understood, once for all, I do not desire your Lordship to write, altho' I may often scribble. Certainly it will be highly gratifying to me if, now and then, on a rainy, vacant day, you shall happily be in the humor to write a few lines—and here I relinquish to Mrs. R. your next letter, be it when it may, that she, in replying, may have an opportunity of telling what a capital boy is her Horatio, &, believe me, he is a charming fellow.

'And now, my dear Lord, I shall relieve you from this tittle tattle by only adding our united best respects.'

647. A. L. S. from Mr. R. Bulkeley to the same. Dated Ludlow, Friday, December 24th, 1801. 3 pages 4to. [P.]

'When I requested Lady Hamilton to write out the songs for me, I am not sure if her Ladyship understood me as wishing to have the *music* belonging to them. I must therefore rely on your influence to procure me that additional favour. I should prefer the music for the piano forte or the harp. I look with much pleasure to the probability of my being called to London in the spring, as I shall then have an opportunity of passing a few days at Merton, and thanking Lady Hamilton personally for taking the trouble which I am giving her. As the songs and music will be much too large for the post, have the goodness to let them be made up in a *strong parcel*, well sealed, to be forwarded by the Ludlow mail coach, and booked in London at the Coach Office. And now, my friend, I must ask another favour of you, tho' I am aware it is of a nature not the most pleasing to you; however, you may be assured that you have not, upon any public or private occasion, complied with a similar desire, when the compliance can have been more gratifying than it will be to your very old and most sincere friend. Now then, to the point. When I was in London, I was at Mr. Eldridge's, in *Margaret St.*, where I saw some admirable likenesses, well and *expeditiously* executed. You, I understand, sat once to him for my brother-in-law, Sir Henry Englefield.\* What the devil tempted you I know not, but I hope that my influence upon the present occasion, will not be less than the devil's or the K<sup>ts</sup>. Two sittings will be sufficient if you have patience to sit an hour each time, and *three* if you can't confine yourself to a chair for such a length of time in one day. Present my respects to Sir W<sup>m</sup> & Lady Hamilton, and believe me,' &c.

648. A. L. S. (in French) from the Queen of Naples to the same. No date (1802?). 1 page 4to. [P.]

'Cette lettre vous sera présentée par un enfant qui m'est bien cher. Je lui envie le plaisir qu'il aura de vous voir, je suis bien affligée que ma maladie m'empêche de vous exprimer toute mon estime et ma reconnaissance. Cet enfant doit servir dans la Marine; j'espère qu'il suivra vos traces, et qu'il pourra un jour acquérir au moins une partie de votre gloire. Mon cher Leopold a exprimé, selon son âge avec des pleurs, le déplaisir qu'il avoit de ne point connoître encore un si brave homme comme vous, que pour satisfaire à son ardent désir, je l'ai envoyé ici, où il vous dira que je souhaite très fort de me porter bien, pour vous dire combien je vous suis reconnaissante, car c'est un sentiment qui est bien gravé dans mon coeur, et lequel je conserverai toujours pour un homme si illustre.

'Croyez que ma reconnaissance estime pour vous, mon valeureux et glorieux Général, m'accompagnera au tombeau.'

649. A. L. S. from Don Gaetano Scerlini to the same. Dated Girgenti, January 12th, 1802. 3 pages folio. [P.]

He asks whether a former letter, congratulating his Lordship on the victory at Copenhagen, has been received, and profits by the present opportunity to express his gratitude for past benefits, at the same time reminding Nelson of his having provided provisions for the troops and navy, and of his having sent special information to the ministers at Malta and Palermo entirely at his own expense. For all these and many other services he was allowed to wear the 'Dragon' by Nelson, with the promise that his Britannic Majesty would confirm it. He begs Nelson to have this order confirmed with corresponding rank and a fitting pension. He closes with humble expressions of devotion to Nelson and the nation.

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\* Sir Henry Charles Englefield, 1752-1822, an antiquary and scientific writer. He succeeded his father in the baronetcy in 1780, but never married, and the title became extinct. He was for some time Vice-President, then President, of the Society of Antiquaries, and was a Fellow of the Royal Society. He made many antiquarian, astronomical, and philosophical communications to various journals on the subjects. Charles Fox is said to have declared that he never left his company uninstructed.



650. A. L. S. from Mr. James Anderson to the same. Dated Trieste, January 18th, 1802. 1½ page 4to. [P.]

‘Flattering myself that your Lordship continues to entertain the same favourable opinion of me as formerly, I come forward with the enclosed paper, and take the liberty of entreating your Lordship’s protection in this, my request, to supersede a man publicly acknowledged incapable of fulfilling the duties of his office.

‘Should any malicious insinuations have been secretly thrown out against my character, I confide too much in your Lordship’s liberality to fear their influence, and my conscience, thank God, is so far clear, that I esteem such meanness beneath my notice.

‘As I demand no salary, which your Lordship will be pleased to observe, it cannot be of any privation to Mr. Stanley, more especially as he wishes himself to retire from office. If life and health permits, I flatter myself the happy day will soon come again to have once more the honor and pleasure of seeing your Lordship in England before we die, which will be probably towards the middle of March. Could I be of the least service to your Lordship in the meantime, with any of the products of this country, beg to be freely commanded. I remain, with all due respect and submission,’ &c.

651. A. L. S. from Sir W. Hamilton to Charles Greville. Dated Merton Place, January 24th, 1802. 3 pages 4to. [H.]

‘I return you, my dear Charles, the enclosed paper, with the additions you wished for. My partiality to you, and the thorough confidence I have in you, in spite of any attempts that have been made to disturb them, remains, and will, I am confident, to my last moment in full force.

‘My visit to Milford last year convinced me of the propriety of all your operations there, & which may still operate in my favour during the short time I can expect to live, but must be attended with immense profit to my heirs hereafter. You are perfectly acquainted with the present state of my finances, and are giving me your advice & friendly aid to get me as soon as possible out of my difficulties. I saw enough when at Milford, that was I to take upon me the management of your plans there, I should rather do hurt than good, & you know that I gave a publick testimony at the dinner there that I should continue to give you the full power of acting for me after your having given such proofs of your ability. Knowing as you do the whole of the dispositions I have made after my death, I am sure it is quite unnecessary for me to repeat to you that I expect, in cases of necessity, every assistance from my estate in Wales that it is capable of affording; but you will see whether such aid will be further necessary or not. It is but reasonable, after having fagged all my life, that my last days should pass off comfortably & quietly. Nothing at present disturbs me but my debt, and the nonsense I am obliged to submit to here to avoid coming to an explosion, which wou’d be attended with many disagreeable effects, and would totally destroy the comfort of the best man and the best friend I have in the world. However, I am determined that my quiet shall not be disturbed, let the nonsensicall world go on as it will. I have now fully opened my mind to you, my d<sup>r</sup> Chs. Yours,’ &c.

652. A. Draft of Letter from Lord Nelson to Mr. Addington. Dated Merton, January 31st, 1802. 1 page 4to. [P.]

‘I have received yesterday from Lord Elgin the letters and ribbons sent herewith, and I have to request that you will have the goodness to lay them before the King, in order that I may know his Royal pleasure as to wearing the ribbon. This mark of regard from the Sultan has made a strong impression on my mind, as it appears that the Battle of Copenhagen has been the cause of this new decoration from the Porte. If his Majesty should, from regard to the Sultan or honour to me, intend to place the ribbon on me, I am ready to attend his commands, but I own, my dear Sir, that great as this honour would be, it would

have its alloy, if I cannot wear the medal for the Battle of Copenhagen at the same time, the greatest and most honourable reward in the power of our Sovereign to bestow, as it marks the personal service of,' &c.

653. L. S. (in French) from Capitan Cadir Bey\* to Lord Nelson.  
Dated Alexandria, February 3rd, 1802. 2½ pages folio. [P.]

'La présente ne serve que pour donner avis à son Excellence de ma santé, & j'espère à Dieu, que la santé de son Excellence, de tous ces officiers et ces capitaines en soit de memme.

'Le temps il ne me permetté pas à cause de mes grandes auccupations d'écrire à son Excellence pour lui présenter mes respects, mais à présente que je suis un peu en repos je prend l'hardiesse de lui écrire la présente, & je prie que son Excellence me fasse la grâce de ce maître en peine de m'écrire deux mots par première ocasion, pour savoir l'état de la santé de son Excellence, de tous ses officiers & capitaines, qu'ils me son ci cher comme la mienne.

'N'ayent rien de nouveau pour lui annoncée, je l'embrasse,' &c.

'Je prie son Excell<sup>ce</sup> de faire mes respects à son E<sup>ce</sup> le Ministre Amelton & tout sa respectable famille.'

654. Letter from Baron d'Eiker and Ekoffen to the same. Dated Bamberg, February 6th, 1802. 7 pages folio. [P.]

'The West of Europe has not waited for the signing of the preliminaries of peace between Great Britain and France to testify to you its sentiments of veneration for your Lordship's person. Long, my Lord, have you been the object of its admiration; your bravery, your personal virtues, your heroick actions, and above all your miraculous successes with which Heaven has vouchsafed to crown all your enterprises and ineffable modesty (the faithful companion and constant associate of true courage) form, my Lord, a great union that merits every sort of eulogium.

'Saviour of all that remains to us, of the religion and liberties of Europe, by having gained the celebrated and ever-memorable battle of Abouckir (as in the last age the great Marlborough was by that of Bleinheim) your Lordship has been alternately loaded with the blessings of all honest men, rewarded by your Sovereign and your country, reveered by your countrymen and distinguished in the most conspicuous manner, and even beyond all example, by the Ottoman Port and by His Majesty the King of the Sicilies.

'Animated by such examples and excited by duty, the General Chapter of the Order Equestrian Secular and Chapteral of St. Joachim has decreted, as long ago as the month of September 1801, in virtue of the statutes of its Order, unanimously and by acclamation, to invest your Lordship with the dignity of Knight Great Commander of that Order.

'This nomination, my Lord, took place in conformity to the 8th Article, Section XII. of the Statutes of the Order, of which this is a copy:—

"Notwithstanding all the rules relative to the rights of passage, it is the special and particular intention of this Order to honour and distinguish the eminent valour and the great qualities that signalize those who render themselves *illustrious* in the career of arms. By this reason the Chapter has the right to invest gratuitously with the distinctive marks of the Order all those who have rendered themselves worthy of receiving such a proof, so real and unequivocal, of the admiration of this Equestrian Corps. However, it is very expressly ordained that such investitures can be granted by only S. A. The Grand Master of the General Chapter, and only *per vota unanimitia*. Then the Diploma and the Emblems of the Order are to be forwarded, franco, to the knight that shall have been elected in this manner."

'At its proper time the said nomination was announced to your Lordship by the Master of the Ceremonies, who was officially directed to acquaint you thereof. But as it appears, my Lord, that your Lordship has not yet answered his letter, and as consequently the affair is suspended, or at least, in a state of uncertainty,

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\* The Turkish Admiral.



owing to your silence, I am therefore authorized by a *conclusum particular and extraordinary* of S. A. J. The Grand Master and the General Chapter to announce to you again the said nomination and election of your Lordship, and to request your categorical answer thereon. In a word, we await your ulterior decision as to this object. Having made use of the expression *conclusum particular and extraordinary* I must desire your Lordship to take notice that matters of this sort have no relation to my department, but belong to that of Master of the Ceremonies, appointed for that purpose, otherwise I should have glories in having the honour of notifying to you your nomination on the first moment.

‘As I presume, my Lord, that this Order may be unknown to you, or at least not sufficiently known, I look upon it as my duty to inform you that it was instituted in 1755 by some princes of the Holy Roman Empire, and by several lords of the immediate nobility and of the High Capitular Nobility of Germany. The greatest part of these illustrious persons were Protestants. The Order with some exceptions, having been founded and established like the Teutonic Order, and that of Malta, chose to itself a constitution conformable to all the principles of true chivalry. It has above all its *principal object* to maintain the tranquillity of the Publick, and to excite the highest degree of fidelity for the Sovereign to whom you are subject or in whose service you may be engaged. From its first institution the Order has had the happiness that many Sovereigns have granted to their noble vassals the permission of being received into it and to wear the Cross, and it was on the 23rd of June, 1790, that it was solemnly and authentically recognised by his late Imperial Majesty Leopold II.,\* and the 24th of April, 1791, it was recognised in a manner not less authentic and solemn by his late Majesty, Frederick William II., King of Prussia,† who granted equally the above permission to members of the Order in their service, and assuring them of their protection. Lastly, his Majesty the reigning King of Prussia‡ has just recognised the Order, having granted a permission dated the 18th June, 1801, to the Baron de Stein d’Altenstein, his vassal, to be received into and wear the distinctive marks of the Order.

‘As to its present composition ; the Order of St. Joachim is under the Grand-Mastership of S. A. J. M<sup>gr</sup> the reigning Count of Leiningen-Westerbourg,§ who, in his quality of reigning Count is a state of the Germanick Empire and enjoys all the rights of Sovereignty conformable to the constitution of that empire. After the Grand Master there is a Great Prior. The number of Grand Commanders amounts at present to twelve, of Commanders to seventeen, and of Knights to forty-two. Then the Ladies of the Order, that is to say, one Lady of the Great Cross, and nine of the Little Cross, besides many in expectation. All persons distinguished by their birth, and by their irreproachable conduct, of the first quality, with titles, and holding honourable places ; many are even decorated with other Orders of the first rank.

‘If then, my Lord, you should think proper to accept the nomination of the Celsissime Grand Master and of the very illustrious Chapter General to the Dignity, I beg of you to have the complaisance to send me the blazon of your arms, with its distinctive decorations together with your Christian name, and all your titles, that they may be inserted in the Diploma of Knight Grand Com-

\* Leopold II., Emperor of Germany, 1747–1792, son of Francis I. and the Empress Maria Theresa, succeeded to the Imperial Crown on the death of his brother Joseph II. in 1790, having previously governed Tuscany as its Grand Duke. During his short reign he managed to strengthen his house by splendid alliances, established a peace with the Ottoman Porte, and restored a good understanding between the Courts of Vienna and Berlin.

† Frederick William II., King of Prussia, 1744–1797, nephew of Frederick the Great, whom he succeeded in 1786. He introduced many wise reforms in the administration of the affairs of his kingdom, except in matters of religion.

‡ Frederick William III., 1770–1840, eldest son of Frederick William II. An enlightened sovereign whose reign was of great benefit to his country.

§ August Georg Gustav, Count von Neu-Leiningen-Westerburg, 1770–1849. He entered the army, served both in the French and Austrian service, and distinguished himself on many occasions.

mander of the Order, and this according to the ordinary custom. This necessary business once performed, the Diploma, the Cross, and all the necessary emblems worn by the Knights of that class shall be sent to the house of Thornton and Power at Hamburg with orders to forward them to your Lordship in the most safe and expeditious way possible.

'As to the duties of passage and Chancellery according to the Article of the Statutes above-mentioned, the Chancellery have no demand to make. The honour and glory of enrolling the NAME of NELSON among those who form the Knighthood of the Order, is a reward, a remuneration equally glorious and satisfactory.

'Permit me, my Lord, as an individual, to join my feeble voice to those of the whole universe, to express and testify to you my veneration for your person, my admiration for your qualities, talents and social virtues, patriotic and warlike, and to implore of Heaven to grant you a long enjoyment of health, of all the human felicities and of all the honours which you have so well merited.

'It is with these sentiments that I have the honour of subscribing myself,' &c.

655. A. L. S. from Mrs. Matcham to the same. Dated Clifton, February 14th (1802). 2 pages 4to. [P.]

'By a letter from my father last night, I find that I have to return you my thanks for the very elegant sett of china. Be assur'd, my dear brother, I need not this proof of your affection, or any present that money can bestow, although I shall, if possible, set a double value upon it, as I had considered it a present from our dear father. I am sorry to say that he is not so well as when he came to Bath. We went home for a day or two last week to see him; his cough was very troublesome, & he is weak in the extreme, but the weather was very severe, & I hope we shall find him better when we return, which it is our intention to do in a week if we are all well enough; for, besides myself, we have five children & a servant afflicted with this troublesome disorder, & I assure you, the disappointment of not seeing you has added not a little to my unpleasant feelings upon this occasion, but I must look forward to happier times, and be thankful for our present comforts. With our sincere wishes that you may enjoy many returns of this memorable day in *our* calender,' &c

'I beg you will remember us with respect and affection to our friends at Merton.'

656. A. L. S. from Mr. Matcham to the same. No date (February 14th, 1802). 1½ pages 4to. [P.]

'The sett of china Mrs. Matcham will, I am sure, carefully preserve as a memento of your affectionate attention to her, & having that our wishes are compleat, as we ought to be thankful for the essential abundance we enjoy, we should be sorry to see your liberality further shown to us. I am confident, my Lord, your income is not, nor ever will be, equal to your generosity. A period may come when your interest may be solicited for our young men, should God preserve them. Our ambition doth not soar; we only wish them to be merchants, and one to be indebted to you for a seaport consulate, not unlikely among a people who must ever respect your name, tho' they have felt your scourge. Our plan you may some day have leisure to hear from me, one perhaps of the idle dreams of life, which serve, however, to amuse & cheer us in the journey. You will never be able to say I did not apply in time,' &c.

657. A. L. S. from Mr. Addington to the same. Dated Downing Street, February 19th, 1802. 2 pages 4to. [P.]

'Many considerations combine to make me particularly desirous of giving effect to your wishes in favor of your brother; and I can only repeat that I shall not miss an opportunity of doing so of which I can avail myself consistently with claims and engagements which leave me no alternative.

'On Wednesday last, I communicated to his Majesty the wish entertained



by the Grand Signior that you should wear the Insignia of the Order of the Crescent, and likewise that of the Order of St. Joachim, that you would accept the dignity of Knight Grand Commander thereof; & I have great satisfaction in assuring your Lordship of His Majesty's most gracious and entire acquiescence,' &c.

658. A. L. S. from Admiral Archibald Dickson to the same. Dated March 31st, Yarmouth, 1802. 2½ pages 4to., with Superscription and Seal. [P.]

'I have a letter from Sir Hyde Parker respecting some money which is to be paid on account of the Baltic expedition. He tells me that Lieutenant-Colonel Stewart, with the detachment of troops, was borne as supernumeraries on board the fleet; but, according to the regulation of prize laws, to share, they can only share in one class *officers* and *soldiers* together, not being part of the compliment of the ship. We will allow being on the expedition joint with the fleet they then can only share if His Majesty should be pleased to direct a proportion agreeable to their different rank; in that case, it cannot effect the Admiral's right. Sir Hyde says they mean to memorial the King, and it is become a question whether it would not be better to allow them to share according to their several ranks, as he understands it has been the case, in most of similar kind, instead of keeping back the distribution of 30,000*l.*, he says, now in the hands of Mr. Davison, to be paid; there can be no objection, I should suppose; and had there been a Major-General sharing in the different classes, in that case, I rather think the Major-General Commander-in-Chief of the army would have shared with the Commanders-in-Chief, as at the Texel and other places, *by the King's order*; but Sir Hyde tells me it has been suggested that Lieutenant-Colonel Stewart's proportion should be with the Junior Flag Officers. We cannot allow, my dear Lord, a Lieutenant-Colonel in the army to share with us, it never has been, and I hope we shall not be the first to make a precedent; I have no objection to making Colonel Stewart a compliment equal to what you think is right. Sir Thomas Young is with me, and begs me to say he is ready, as well as myself, to do whatever you think is right,' &c.

659. A. L. S. from John McArthur\* to the same. Dated York Place, Portman Square, April 21st, 1802. 2 pages 4to. [P.]

'Captain Cockburn,† having acquainted me that your lordship had appointed to meet him at his lodgings on Tuesday morning in order to settle some prize concerns, & wished for my attendance with any memorandums relative to the corn vessels, I am sorry that, being engaged to pass ten days at Catherington with Mr. Hood's family, will deprive me of the honour of seeing your Lordship in Conduit Street on Tuesday next, as I set off to-morrow morning accompanied by my wife & daughter.

'Inclosed I transmit for your Lordship's information a letter I received from the King's Proctor's office, whereby it appears that the *Madona del Rosario San Antonio di Padua* was captured on the 3rd November, 1795, & which is confirmed by the *Agamemnon's* journal as appears from the annexed extract. I could not find that the *Meleager* was in company on the 3rd November, 1795;

\* John McArthur, 1755–1840, an author, who first entered the navy and became secretary, first to Lord Hood, and then to Sir Hyde Parker. In 1799 he started the *Naval Chronicle*, but his most important work was his *Life of Nelson*, written in conjunction with James Stanier Clarke, and published in 1809.

† Captain, afterwards Admiral Sir George Cockburn, 1772–1853, second son of Sir James Cockburn. He became a Post-Captain in 1794; was at the battle of Cape Saint Vincent; had an important share in the reduction of Martinique in 1809; was promoted to be Rear-Admiral in 1812, after which he served in America. In 1815 he took Napoleon to St. Helena, where he stayed in the capacity of Governor until replaced by Sir Hudson Lowe. He became a Vice-Admiral in 1819, and in 1832 was appointed Commander-in-Chief on the North American Station. He was First Lord of the Admiralty from 1841 to 1846. He became Admiral of the Fleet in 1851, and succeeded his brother in the Baronetcy in 1852.

the *Flora* appears to have been in company with the *Agamemnon* on the 29th October, but no notice is taken of her on the day the capture was made. The other corn vessel, called *Inmacolata Concezzione*, was a very small one taken by the boats belonging to the *Meleager* in Borgello Road, on the coast of Genoa, in pursuance of a signal from the *Agamemnon*.

'These circumstances may probably enable your Lordship to fix on the ships entitled to share for those two captures. I have the honour to remain,' &c.

660. A. L. S. from Mr. Matcham to the same. Dated April 24th, 1802.  
 $\frac{1}{2}$  page 4to, with Superscription and Seal. [P.]

'Your good old father is very ill, and I have directions from Dr. Parry and Mr. Spry, to say to you that he is certainly in great danger. Whatever orders you send me shall be executed. Believe me,' &c.

661. A. L. S. from Lord Nelson to Sir W. Hamilton. Dated Merton, April 28th, 1802. 1 page 4to. [H.]

'I feel very much obliged by your truly kind and flattering letter. I have a consolation in the loss I have sustain'd that my dear father was a good man, and that I feel I never was wanting in kindness to him. With every kind wish, my dear Sir William, ever yours,' &c.

'Of course, I cannot go to the Royal Academy, and must request that you will make my apologies.'

662. A. L. S. from Alexander Ball to Lady Hamilton. Dated Clifford Street, April 30th, 1802. 4 pages 4to. [P.]

'I most sincerely condole with our dear friend, Lord Nelson, on the death of his father, an event which his mind has been prepared to receive by the advanced age and gradual dissolution of the Doctor.\* I therefore hope that he will soon recover from the shock which this melancholy separation has occasioned, and I am very glad that he did not go to Bath, as it would have added considerable distress to his afflicted mind without answering any one good purpose. I shall visit Merton early next week. You have, no doubt, great reason at times to feel some of the indignity and contempt of a misanthrope, but a little reflection will make your mind rise superior to such petty neglects and ingratitude. I have to regret that I have never had the power to prove to you and Sir William how very much I feel your kindness and friendship to me on many occasions.

'I called yesterday on Sir Thomas Troubridge, and requested him to move Mr. Rhode to a ship building, and I named the *Ocean*—which could not be done, as the Admiralty have determined not to appoint Pursers to ships which are upon the stocks. I shall call upon Mr. Rhode to know in what manner I can be useful to him.

'*Entre nous*, the Cabinet Ministers are of opinion that I am fitted for the station of Minister at Malta. Mr. Cameron is to be provided for, and an offer has been made to me, *unsolicited*, to go to Malta; but the salary is so inadequate to maintain that appointment, so as to render the services which will be expected of me, that I have refused to accept of it. Lord Hawkesbury has desired to talk to me on the subject early next week, and I am likewise to have a meeting with Lord Hobart. I am determined, however, not to accede to the terms they first proposed. Adieu, my dear sister, be assured of my unalterable regard. My best regards to Lord Nelson and Sir William, and believe me,' &c.

663. A. L. S. (in French) from Capitan Cadir Bey to Lord Nelson. Dated Alexandria, May 3rd, 1802. 1 page folio. [P.]

'Avec la présente il y a trois que je vous écris pour vous donner avis de ma santé, espérant que la votre, celles de vos Cap<sup>nes</sup> et de vos officiers en soit de

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\* The Rev. E. Nelson was not a Doctor of Divinity. His degree was that of Master of Arts.



même. Je vous prie par la première ocasion, ou par qu'elqu'autre voy de me donner de vos nouvelles, que j'eu seroit très charmée de les avoir, et même de vos Cap<sup>nes</sup> et officiers.

'N'ayant rien de nouveaux je vous salut en faisant mes compliments à tous vos Cap<sup>nes</sup> et officiers,' &c.

664. A. L. (marked 'private') from Rev. W. Nelson to the same. No date (May 3rd, 1802). 7 pages 4to. [H.]

'When the next presentation to Hilborough, after the death of Mr. Rolfe, was made over to me, on May, 1780, it was agreed that I was to pay, at my Father's death, *seven hundred pounds*, viz.—To Maurice, Susanna, Horatio, Ann, Edmund, Suckling, & Catherine, 100*l.* each. As Edmund, Suckling, and Catherine were minors, Mr. W<sup>m</sup> Suckling made me make over to him 300*l.* in the 3 per cent. Consols, as his security for them, & which, I suppose is now standing in his name or his Executors, in trust, & which my Father always regularly received the interest of. Maurice always took it for him after Mr. Suckling's death, & after his own death you, as his executor, should have done, if not, perhaps either Mr. Marsh or Mr. Davison; but this you will inquire about. You are to pay it in the following manner:—To Mrs. Matcham, 100*l.*; to Tom Bolton, who claims as being left it by Edmund, 100*l.*; & Suckling's 100*l.* is to be paid to me as my Father's Executor, who was his heir, & to be reckoned now among my Father's effects. If any dividends due to Father at L. Day are unpaid to him, they must be paid to *me*. Besides this, by ye same agreement, I am to pay to you, as Maurice's executor, 100*l.*; to Mrs. Bolton 100*l.*; to my Father's Executor 500*l.*, for my late sister Ann, to be reckoned among his effects, which, with your own 100*l.*, which you kindly forgave me when I purchased the Advowson last year, makes up the whole 700*l.* There is also, I have understood, in the Funds (but in what stock I know not) the sum of 908*l.* odd shillings, belonging to my Mother, & which my Father received the Interest during his Life. Mr. Ryder, of Lincoln's Inn, can inform you of all the particulars, if you can't find it among Maurice's papers. When Mr. W<sup>m</sup> Suckling died, as this trust-money was not mentioned in his will, Mr. Ryder decided that Maurice, as his heir-at-law, was to take charge of it. After Maurice's death, I naturally concluded it devolved upon me, as next eldest; but Mr. Ryder said, *No*, it came to you, as your Brother's Executor. I confess I could not see the reason or law for this, any more than it should not in the first instance have devolved on Mr. Suckling's Executors; but, however this may be, it matters not whether you or I. I will suppose the charge comes to you, & am heartily glad it is off my shoulders.

'You must, then, as soon as you can, sell and dispose of the stock, & make an equal division of it to us who are alive at our Father's decease. But I believe Ryder has the original trust & settlement of our Mother's (if it is not amongst Maurice's papers), & he will give it up and explain it to you.

'I shall not pay the 300*l.* I mentioned in another part of this statement, viz., to Maurice, Susanna, or Ann, or their representatives, till I have received my share of this 908*l.* & any little matter there may be coming out of our Father's effects, as I am in hopes I shall be able to manage it *without* touching the little I have of my own in the funds.

'I have written this merely for your own perusal and consideration, and I don't know that I am quite correct in all particulars about our Mother's money, so don't show this to Matcham. As I know your great liberality, & that it sometimes oversteps itself, let me venture to give your Lordship one piece of advice on this occasion, & that is, *don't* throw your *share* into the common stock to be divided amongst us all; it will be but a trifle to each, and do no good; but take it to yourself in the first instance; you may have occasion for it afterwards to settle some of our Father's affairs, or, if not, you can always do as you please with it.'

665. A. L. S. from the same to the same. Dated Hilborough, May 4th, 1802. 4 pages 4to. [H.]

'I shall be as short I can now. I had written the long *statement* which I send in

the other cover last night for your own private perusal. There is no hurry about it. I enclose a letter, which I received from Matcham this morning, to avoid all mistakes when Abraham comes to you you had better tell him to make no alteration in the *Rout* as first fixed by Mr. Matcham before they left Bath, & proceed, as first intended, from *Hounslow* to Epping; only exhort him to take care to proceed slowly & properly thro' the towns, & to keep to their time and be at Thorpe as soon as they can on Monday morning. I have *positively* fixed the funeral for *Tuesday* morning, May 11th. I wish you would tell Abraham what you would have him do afterwards. I shall go to Burnham on Thursday and prepare everything.

'I am quite alarmed, my dear brother, at the account my Lady gives of your indisposition. As it seems to be a surgical case, surely you had better call in the assistance of Mr. Hawkins or Mr. Home, or some other eminent surgeon, & let them examine y<sup>e</sup> part. Mr. Parrot may be very clever, but possibly, as these men have had more experience, they may be able to suggest something he has not thought of.

'You will see by Mr. Matcham's letter that he wrote down a memorandum by our late Father's desire. I ought to see that, as it may make a considerable alteration in the Will.

'Tho' I do not think it quite right that one sh<sup>d</sup> take one thing & another—because it may puzzle the accounts—yet I certainly shall not object to what has been done; for the same reason I shall not make any division of the Plate or Furniture between Bolton & myself before it is previously *valued* & *brought to account*, otherwise I shall never know what I am about. If y<sup>e</sup> tent beds are taken by either of us, they shall be accounted for by y<sup>e</sup> person who takes them. Comp<sup>ts</sup> to Mr. Matcham, and thank him for his letter.

'My kind love to my Lady. Y<sup>r</sup>, &c.

666. A. L. S. from Mrs. Bolton to Lady Hamilton. Dated Cranswick, May 7th, 1802. 2 pages 4to., with Superscription and Seal. [P.]

'Many thanks, my dear Lady Hamilton, for your obliging letter, & that you gave such a favourable account of my dear brother's amendment. The death of my dearest father must be great grief to all his children, for never was there a more affectionate father than he has been to us, or one, I believe, more beloved by children; but thank God his life was spared to us so long, & to the last was cheerful. Mr. Bolton is gone this day to Burnham with the D<sup>r</sup>; when he returns, shall have great pleasure in fixing the time for visiting Merton. I cannot close my letter without thanking you, my dear madam, for your kindness and attention to my little girls when at Merton. I am,' &c.

'My kindest love to my brother, & beg you will make my comp<sup>ts</sup> to Sir W<sup>m</sup>.'

667. A. L. S. from the Rev. W. Nelson to Lord Nelson. Dated Hilborough, May 14th, 1802. 7 $\frac{3}{4}$  pages 4to. [H.]

'I came home yesterday from Burnham, & have arranged everything there as well as I could; we have nothing to do now but to sell y<sup>e</sup> few chairs & tables that remain. Mr. Davison is quite mistaken about what Bolton wrote to him; my father had nothing to do with it, &, of course, his Executor cannot; 'tis trust-money for y<sup>e</sup> benefit of Edmund Suckling & Mrs. Matcham. Mr. Wm. Suckling & Mr. Bolton are y<sup>e</sup> Trustees, & Mr. Bolton, as sole survivor, has y<sup>e</sup> whole arrangement. He would not have thought of troubling Mr. Davison at all if he had not sent a power of attorney last week to Cranwich for receiving y<sup>e</sup> dividend on it. Davison seems very sharp and afraid he sh<sup>d</sup> lose a sixpence! However, that is no matter now; Mr. Bolton has written to another person, & the business will be done in a day or two with Mr. Davison. He will then divide y<sup>e</sup> money into three equal parts—the *first* he claims himself as heir to Edmund, the *second* he will pay to me for our late father's effects as heir to Suckling, and the third to Mrs. Matcham; so ends that. I suppose it will be rather more than 100*l*. each. I have no doubt if you or your agent apply at y<sup>e</sup> bank about the 908*l*. you may do the same, and then you may make y<sup>e</sup> dividend among us all as y<sup>e</sup> trust directs. Mr. Ryder will tell y<sup>e</sup> exact sum, and where y<sup>e</sup> trust is since Mr. Suckling's death.



I am almost certain I saw Mr. Ryder give it to Maurice, & you will find it among his papers. Mrs. Suckling has nothing to do with it; she is not wanted. The sooner you do it y<sup>e</sup> better, as stocks seem on the decline.

'I will thank you to send me down Mr. Davison's account with my father, then I shall see what money he had in the funds, &c.; I shall not be able to form anything like a correct estimate of his effects with<sup>t</sup> it. If the parcel is too large for y<sup>e</sup> post, send it by the coach; you will likewise take care & let me know what y<sup>e</sup> things come to. There is no reason why you should pay it, let it go into my account. Be ruled by me.

'I am sorry for y<sup>e</sup> 389*l.* you was forced to pay for Maurice. I don't know who would be executor if they were likely to be losers, the law does not require it, therefore you must repay yourself out of his effects, & if there is not enough to pay legacies they must lose it, share & share alike. I told *Bolton* you c<sup>d</sup> not; his girls must. He said certainly. I am afraid this is some sharp trick of Davison's to secure himself. I don't half like his cunning. I have by me the Probate of our late sister Ann's will. She gives 200*l.* to you, 200*l.* to Mrs. Bolton, & 200*l.* to Mrs. Matcham. There is a legacy to Edmund Suckling if living at the time of her father's death: if not, to be equally divided among y<sup>e</sup> survivors—nothing either to Maurice or myself. It is 2000*l.* 3 per cent. Consols, so that if it sells at about 74 per cent. you will each of you receive near 200*l.*, in addition to your legacies. You are y<sup>e</sup> sole trustee; shall I send it to you? You may then do y<sup>e</sup> business directly & pay y<sup>e</sup> money to y<sup>e</sup> respective claimants, & take your own share; I have nothing to do with it. If any dividends were due to my father at his death, they must be carried to his account; but I suppose Mr. Davison has already done that. I shall know when I see his accounts. I wish Mr. Matcham would say where I can get the 250*l.* my father had at Bath, that I may give the Bath undertaker an order to receive it on account. I will thank him to order the carriage to be sold directly. The coachman told me there was a new set of harness made, but not delivered. He thinks y<sup>e</sup> man will take them again on being allowed two or three guineas. As Mr. Matcham knows all about y<sup>e</sup> Bath concerns, I wish he would look to that. Tally has orders to send y<sup>e</sup> accounts to me as soon as he can.

'It will not be in my power, I am afraid, to come to Merton yet, as I expect to be wanted at Colton the beginning of June about the enclosure, & the Bishop\* will hold a Confirmation some time that month, & I shall be expected to make my appearance. Love to my Lady. Y<sup>r</sup>, &c.

'I am glad to think you will get a few hundreds by Nanny's legacy & my father. Let me beg of you again to take it, and not give it up to y<sup>e</sup> rest.'

668. A. L. S. from the same to the same. Dated Hilborough, near Brandon, May 16th, 1802. 3¼ pages 4to. [H.]

'As I find little or nothing among my father's papers but *old* receipts and *old* memorandums, I conclude all his late agreements for tithes must be in his writing-box, without which I am not able to estimate the demands I have for tithes due to him at y<sup>e</sup> time of his death, or to settle with his successors. I will be obliged to you, therefore, to get your carpenter to make an outside case to y<sup>e</sup> writing-box, & send it to me as soon as you can by the *Admiral Nelson* coach from Charing Cross, or, if that can't be conveniently done, let all the papers be taken out and made into a parcel & sent to me that way.

'I shall send y<sup>e</sup> probate of our late sister Ann's will by M<sup>rs</sup> Bolton; you will then proceed in that business as soon as you please. Let M<sup>r</sup> Davison's accounts with my father be sent in the box. Nobody will tell me what stock my father had standing in his own name. I have mentioned it two or three times. If I am wrong about M<sup>r</sup> Davison, I am glad of it, but I am not convinced.

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\* Charles Manners-Sutton, Archbishop of Canterbury, 1755-1828, was the 4th son of Lord George Manners-Sutton. He was consecrated Bishop of Norwich in 1792, and was translated to the Archbishopric of Canterbury in 1805.

‘I hear Sir W<sup>m</sup> Scot\* is heartily sick of his abominable bill about the clergy, so many objections are made to it, & wishes he was rid of it. Depend upon it, it can never pass in its present form; never was anything so arbitrary. Y<sup>r</sup>,’ &c.

669. A. Draft S. ‘N. & B.’ of Letter from Lord Nelson to Count Leiningen. Dated Merton, June 9th, 1802. 1½ pages 4to. [P.]

‘I have deferred replying to the polite letter of April 3rd, which your Highness did me the honour of writing, until I received the Insignia of the Order, which I did on the 5th of June, and which I have now the honour of wearing. I can only say, that I will endeavour by my future conduct to merit the esteem of your Highness, and to do no discredit to the illustrious Order, which I have now the honour of belonging to. The fortitude with which your Highness bears the injustice done your venerable parent, and the loss of territory, establish you as the most proper character to fill your present illustrious station as head of the Order of S<sup>t</sup> Joachim, and a pattern for all classes of the Order. Wishing from my heart your Highness health, and every blessing that this world and the next can afford, I have the honour of subscribing myself with the highest respect,’ &c.

670. A. L. S. from Sir Alexander Ball to Lord Nelson. Dated Portsmouth, June 14th, 1802. 2 pages 4to. [P.]

‘I regret extremely that I had it not in my power to pay your Lordship another visit before I left town. I had the pleasure of seeing Sir William Hamilton, who informed me of your having discovered the cause of your stomach and bowel complaint, which being removed, I hope to hear of your Lordship soon enjoying the most perfect health. When I was at Malta I was often much indisposed, and could not find the cause until I met with a medical book of Dr Townsend, and found out my case so minutely described, that I immediately proved it to be a worm case, and soon recovered better health. I had before this read Buchan and many other medical books, without fancying any of the numerous complaints so fully detailed. The *Penelope* is having her people paid to-day, and we are to sail this evening. I shall write to your Lordship from Malta, and give every information I can collect of Bronté. I write this in great haste, and have only time to offer my sincere wishes to your Lordship and kind compliments to Sir William Hamilton, with my love to my dear sister Emma.’

671. A. L. S. from Sir W. Hamilton to Charles Greville. Dated Merton, Monday, June 14th, 1802. ½ page 4to., with Superscription. [H.]

‘Here is Mr McKenna’s answer,† & just as we conjectured. I think, as you do, that a few substantial settlers at Milford will, in the end, turn out much better than by encouraging needy adventurers.’

672. A. L. S. from E. W. Walterstorff to Lord Nelson. Dated St. Croix, June 26th, 1802. 4 pages 4to. [P.]

‘I have had the happiness of receiving your Lordship’s letter in answer to mine from Madeira, and you do me justice in thinking that the attachment I profess for you is as unalterable as it is sincere. I hope your Lordship has received a small box with liqueurs, which I did myself the honour of sending you

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\* Sir William Scott, afterwards Lord Stowell, 1745–1836, elder brother of Lord Eldon. He took up civil law, and in 1788 was made Judge of the Consistory Court, was appointed Advocate-General, and was knighted. In 1790 he was made Master of the Faculties, in 1798 was Judge of the High Court of Admiralty, and at the Coronation of George IV. was created a Peer. He was M.P. for the University of Oxford.

† Mr. McKenna’s letter, on a blank page of which Sir William’s is written, is to the effect that he is not inclined to spend his capital in building at Milford.



from Martinique, per the ship the *Union*. But where this letter shall find you I really do not know. About three months ago, we expected your Lordship in the West Indies, and I was thinking of going to Martinique to pay you my respects there. The newspapers have since mentioned your having been appointed Commander-in-Chief in the Mediterranean, I have not been able to find out if it be true or not; at all events I direct this letter to be left at the house of Sir William Hamilton.

'I have now finally settled my business with M<sup>r</sup> Swinburne, and have found that gentleman exactly as Lady Hamilton described him to me. We have, upon the whole, agreed very well, and have parted upon the most friendly terms. Only few claims have been referred to Ministerial discussion and decision, and the number of them should have been still less had not M<sup>r</sup> Swinburne sometimes suffered himself to be influenced by those whose interest it evidently was to defend, or to draw a veil over those numerous irregularities which have been committed here. M<sup>r</sup> Swinburne is certainly a good and very honest man, but sometimes rather weak.

'I long extremely, my dear Lord, to hear how your health has been this spring; I hope you have followed the advice and prescriptions of your friends, and exposed yourself as little as possible to cold and moist weather. But were it not that the public ought sometimes to be gratified with the sight of those who have been the saviours of their country, and that the presence of Lord Nelson must give an additional lustre to any festivity, I should have found fault with your Lordship's going to the Lord Mayor's feast. I am afraid that the French West India islands are as yet far from having their tranquillity secured; I cannot approve of the plan adopted by the Commander-in-Chief at St. Domingo, and still less the measures adopted at Guadaloupe, where the new Government already finds itself too weak. The negroes at Martinico are ripe for an insurrection. General Rochambeau\* is the man who ought to have been sent to that island.

'It will hardly be in my power to leave the West Indies before the month of April next, but I anticipate already the agreeable moment when I shall again take your Lordship by the hand, and when I shall have the happiness of spending some days at Merton, where I hope to renew my respects to Sir William and Lady Hamilton. I am,' &c.

673. A. Copy of L.S. from Sir W. Hamilton to the Marquis of Douglas.†

Dated Merton, July 2nd, 1802. 3¼ pages folio. [H.]

'I was very glad to hear from the Duke,‡ who did us the honour to partake of our family dinner here on Tuesday last, & who was in good spirits & seemed to be much pleased in having made the acquaintance of L<sup>d</sup> Nelson, that your business at Lancaster was going on according to your wishes. We, however, can comprehend well how contrary to your nature your present mode of life must be, tho' necessary for the interest of your family.

'Now, my d<sup>r</sup> Marquis, to you I can open my mind freely, as I believe that between you and me there exists a very remarkable sympathy. Lord Nelson and Lady H. have taken up warmly an old plan of Beckford's, which he had mentioned at the moment of our return to England, but I did not then see sufficient probability of success to encourage me to embark in the business hastily, altho' Beckford's offer was of a nature very advantageous to me and Emma. In short, it was that if by any interest I could induce Government to make me a Peer with the reversion to him at my decease, that he would, in order to keep up the dignity of the Peerage, add during my life £2000 in add<sup>n</sup> to the pension the King has

\* Donatien Marie Joseph de Vimeur, Viscount de Rochambeau, 1750-1813, son of Marshal de Rochambeau. He defended Martinique against the English, succeeded Leclerc at San Domingo, but was forced to capitulate in 1803, and was taken prisoner to England, where he remained until 1811. He was killed at the battle of Leipsic.

† Alexander, Marquis of Douglas, afterwards 10th Duke of Hamilton and 7th Duke of Brandon, 1767-1852, eldest son of the 9th Duke, whom he succeeded in 1819. He married in 1810 Beckford's second daughter, Susan Euphemia.

‡ Probably the Duke of Hamilton.

given me, and settle an annuity of £500 on Emma after my death, and that his two sure seats in Parliament should be at the absolute disposal of the Minister, besides the great influence he possesses in two more seats in the H. of C. You know me & can well imagine that a Peerage would not flatter my vanity, but the offered increase of income would certainly put me more at my ease than I am at present, and the £500 a year to Emma, in addition to the £800 I have left her by my will, is also a consideration. Beckford sent here yesterday Mr Pebles, his principal West Indian agent & one of his intended Members of Parliament, to hold a conversation with L<sup>d</sup> Nelson & me, renewing the old offer & wishing L<sup>d</sup> Nelson to mention it to his friend Mr Addington. His Lord<sup>p</sup> will certainly do anything in his power to serve Lady H. & me, but sees, as I do, that unless I was supported by a stronger family interest than that of my cozen Beckford, it might not succeed, but that if the Duke of Hamilton & the M. of D. were to come forward in my behalf that the business might succeed to my immediate advantage and satisfaction, and that of Beckford at my decease.

‘Now, certainly, Beckford has great & strong claims on Government for the handsome support he has ever given it on all occasions of difficulty & distress, and as no direct accusation lies against him, and it is now 20 years since an unfortunate suspicion arose & was maliciously encouraged, the plan he proposes would be a gentle means of his getting into the world again, and that without *éclat*, as I shall be the immediate ostensible person favor’d. Now, if (not that I mean to ask of you any explanation on the subject) there shou’d be the most distant thought of your being one day more intimately connected with the Beckford family than you are at present (and of which some symptoms have appeared in the female part of your L<sup>p</sup>s family), the present plan brought into execution wou’d certainly remove many difficulties. In short, I believe I have said enough to make you see clearly into the whole affair, & that I, who shall have lived 73 if I go on to next Xmas & have my senses about me, cannot be very anxious as to myself. L<sup>d</sup> Nelson wished me to acquaint [you] yesterday with the message from Fonthill, & so I do but beg of you only to turn it in your mind, and I assure you that I shall not be offended if I get no answer to this letter. I am sensible of its being a delicate point, and yet I cannot help flattering myself that the good D. of H. and you, my friend, would readily undertake anything for Emma’s and my advantage, provided it could be done *sans vous compromettre trop*. Adieu, my L<sup>d</sup> M. Your,<sup>s</sup> &c.

674. A. L. S. from William Beckford to Sir W. Hamilton. Dated Fonthill Abbey, July 4th, 1802. 3 pages 4to. [H.]

‘I thank you cordially, my dear Sir W<sup>m</sup>, for your kind communication this instant received. It states the matter in the clearest, simplest point of view, and I should think it strange indeed if our relations were in the least shy of lending their assistance.

‘Pedley, whom I sent to you t’other day, is a trimmer, and will fight his way shortly in the H. of C. if I am not mistaken.

‘His brother, too, has both knowledge & abilities. Their joint support would give the Marq<sup>s</sup> & his friends, great consequence. I need say no more ; you have written all I could wish or could have dictated had I been at your elbow.

‘We have woeful weather, wind and rain from morn to night, & all night long, driving and blinding.

‘The tower sings a fine tune, and all the little turrets, flying buttresses, pinnacles, & gothic loopholes join in the chorus.

‘The place, however, looks heavenly thro’ the showers, every gleam of sun lights up such beauties of verdure and vegetation, such immense sweeps of foliage, and stretches of lawn as astonish me, tho’ fresh from Switzerland.

‘I long to show you these effects ; indeed, you will see them in perfection from your nest in the great tower, for I have only a sort of perch to offer you as a roosting place, but upon a hearty welcome you may depend. Tolerable *bonne chère* & the best of fishing at least, if I may judge from the profusion of fine trout & perch brought in every day. We have excellent tench & bouncing carp ; my French cook, Monsieur Buffetot, knows how to manage them most admirably *à la provençale*. I think you will join with me in reckoning him a *Cordon bleu*.



'My young are just arrived at their new chateau, a very snug, convenient habitation, extremely well done up & feathered by Mr Williams.

'Pray tell L<sup>d</sup> Nelson how eagerly I anticipate the moment of receiving him into the peace of this secure retirement.

'Remember me most affect<sup>ly</sup> to Lady Hamilton, & believe me ever yours, dear Sir William,' &c.

'Has D. H. taken his departure yet for Scot<sup>ld</sup>? If he has not, it might not be amiss c<sup>ld</sup> you catch him in good humour again to inspire him personally upon our business.'

675. A. L. S. from Mrs. Bolton to Lady Hamilton. No date (July 8th, 1805). 3½ pages 4to., with Superscription.

'How shocked I was, my dear Lady Hamilton, on receiving y<sup>r</sup> letter, to hear such a dreadful account of poor Mr Copindale. Poor man, perhaps we ought not to wish for his life, as after so severe a blow on the head, I doubt he never will be fit for business again. What a loss to all his connexions.

'Thank you for the paper, this day gave us an account of Charlotte's appearance at M<sup>rs</sup> Hamilton's, but not a word of Lady Barrymore\* did we see, as the papers did not come at that time. Tom is now at Brancaster, I hope in about a fortnight you will see him at Merton, & all I can say is, tho' he has not most shining talents, you will find him of an even good disposition. The fault is not in his *heart*, I assure you. However, I hope Mr. Laventon will give a good account of him. He requires not severity, but mildness, and attention, I hope, will get him forward on the line of life he is intended for. His father & myself shall always think ourselves under obligations thro' you to my brother for taking him. I assure you it has relieved my mind of a great burden. Mr. Bolton, M<sup>rs</sup> Pierson, and myself join in love to you.

'Write me again on account of poor Mr C.

[ 'M<sup>rs</sup> Bolton has been telling me how much M<sup>rs</sup> Wilson is attached to this poor Mr Copindale, and I open her letter just to beg you will let me know how she bears the terrible shock. I suppose M<sup>rs</sup> B. tells you she goes with me to Brancaster in about a fortnight. We take Enma with us. How I wish you could be of the party. If you do not visit Norfolk this summer, I shall think not half so good as you used to be, but I trust you will. ' ]†

676. A. L. S. from Mr. Marsh to Lord Nelson. Dated Norfolk Street, July 17th, 1802. 1 page 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'I find D<sup>r</sup> Nelson has been at the bank this morning, and made the transfers agreeable to my letter, and therefore took out the enclosed power of atty, by which we can at any time follow your Lordship's directions for the sale of all or any part of the stock. Your Lordship will please to observe, that, besides the 2000*l.* from your sister's name, D<sup>r</sup> Nelson has added 152*l.* 10*s.*, which of course the bank has put all into *one* account. I forgot to look whether the Doctor has taken the dividend due on the 5<sup>th</sup> of this month upon this stock, if not they will pay it him at any time—not an holliday. The Probate of the Will we will either keep till we have the honour of seeing your Lordship or D<sup>r</sup> Nelson, or leave it under cover at N<sup>o</sup> 23 Piccadilly, as you will please to direct. I regret I had not the pleasure of seeing your Lordship this morning, & more, that I cannot have that honour on Monday, being always with the sincerest respect and regard,' &c.

677. A. L. S. from William Haslewood‡ to the same. Dated Craven Street, July 20th, 1802. 2 pages 4to. [P.]

'Almost immediately after your Lordship left St. James's Square, I called to

\* Henry Barry, 8th Earl of Barrymore, married in 1795 Annie, eldest daughter of Mr. Jeremiah Coghlan of Ardo, Co. Waterford.

† The portion in square brackets is in the handwriting of Mrs. Pierson.

‡ Mr. Haslewood was Nelson's lawyer and confidential adviser.

say that I found it impossible (on account of the alteration made in the original bonds by Mr Tucker), to have all the instruments ready for signature before you left town, but Mr Davison told me I need not proceed to Piccadilly, as you did not intend to wait any longer for me, & wished the instrument to be sent to Merton.

'I hope I need not add the short delay has not been owing to any want of exertion. I remain,' &c.

678. A. L. S. from the Marquis of Douglas to Sir William Hamilton.

Dated Grosvenor Place, July 26th, 1802. 2½ pages 4to., with Superscription and Seal. [H.]

'Your very kind and confidential letter from Merton, of the 2<sup>d</sup> of this month, should not have remained unanswered untill this moment had it fallen into my hands sooner; but all letters directed for me during my stay at Lancaster were kept in town until my return; it is, therefore, only three or four days that I have received it.

'The plan you state to me, my dear Sir William, I should fear never could possibly succeed, for, however unreasonable may be the objections to it, they are such as weigh very much with the individuals of this country. Were it in my power to second any wish of yours, I am sure I should feel happy beyond measure to do it, but my political interest can be of no avail, & the asking would only subject us both to a refusal, which would certainly come, from the final clause in the object in question being of so peculiar a nature, & so little consonant with the feelings and tempers of people. If you can point out any method in which I can appear without manifest disadvantage to myself, & without a manifest incompetency to assist, I shall be happy to subscribe to your inclination. Nothing would make me so happy as to be able to evince you and Lady Hamilton of the interest I feel for ye, & of the wish I have to show my remembrance of past favours and kindnesses.

'I must add one thing, my dr Sir William, from a principle of delicacy, which I think I owe to two young persons that I esteem, and to my own character. If any *symptoms of any sort of wish may have appeared in any part of my family*, they are unknown to me and unencouraged. What may be my future lot at present is undecided. I am entirely at my own disposal, & if I ever should incline towards the connexion you allude to, or any other, I have that sort of extreme delicacy about me that would lead me immediately to make an avowal of my wishes to those who ought to be apprised of it. Thus much I say because I should be sorry to lose any part of your good opinion; & upon subjects of such delicacy too much attention cannot be paid.

'I must now beg you will let me know something about you and all the travellers; if you are not detained a considerable time in Wales, perhaps I shall see you in town on your return. As all my election fatigues are at length happily terminated, before I get into the bustle of Scotland I am determined to repose myself where I am. Town is very empty, but I have found a few of my friends, & a very few people satisfy me provided I can have my papers & pictures and things about me. Do say everything kind and affectionate for me to Lady Hamilton & Lord Nelson, & assure them of my regard and esteem. I hope to you, my dear Sir W<sup>m</sup>, nothing is requisite to subjoin, I am and ever shall be,' &c.

'P.S.—Pray write to me and send your letters direct to London. *Adieu.*'

679. A. L. S. 'E. H.' from Lady Hamilton to Sir W. Hamilton. No date (August). 1 page 4to. [H.]

'As I see it is a pain to you to remain here, let me beg of you to fix your time for going. Weather I dye in Picadilly or any other spot in England, 'tis the same to me; but I remember the time when you wish'd for tranquility, but now all visiting and bustle is your liking. However, I will do what you please, being ever your affectionate & obedient,' &c.



680. A. L. S.\* from Sir W. Hamilton to Lady Hamilton. No date (August, 1802). 1 page 4to. [H.]

'I neither love bustle nor great company, but I like some employment and diversion. I have but a very short time to live, and every moment is precious to me. I am in no hurry, and am exceedingly glad to give every satisfaction to our best friend, our dear Lord Nelson. The question, then, is what we can best do that all may be perfectly satisfied. Sea bathing is usefull to your health ; I see it is, and wish you to continue it a little longer ; but I must confess that I regret, whilst the season is favourable, that I cannot enjoy my favourite amusement of quiet fishing. I care not a pin for the great world, and am attached to no one so much as to you.'

681. A. L. S. from Lord Nelson to the Rev. Dixon Hoste. Dated Milford, August 3rd, 1802.  $\frac{3}{4}$  page 4to.

'I had a letter from William dated Malta, June 24<sup>th</sup> : he was perfectly well, but very anxious to return to England, and I hope the *Greyhound's* turn will soon arrive, when you will receive one of the best young men and sea-officers in Europe. I am,' &c.

682. A. L. S. from Mr. R. Payne Knight to Lady Hamilton. Dated Downton, Sunday, August 15th (1802).  $1\frac{1}{2}$  pages 4to., with Superscription and Seal. [P.]

'I do assure you, my dear Lady Hamilton, that nothing will give me more real concern than that you and my friend Sir William should come in to this country and not take up your abode at Downton ; &, tho' I have not the honour of being personally acquainted with Lord Nelson, I beg to assure him that I shall be equally flattered and gratified in his company ; indeed, I should think myself a very unnatural and ungrateful Englishman if I felt otherwise.

'As, however, your laconic epistle does not tell me when you go to Lord Cawdor's, or when you leave it, or when you are to be at Monmouth or Ludlow, I cannot guess the time when I may hope to see you. I will therefore give you a statement of my own engagements, trusting to you to arrange matters so as to come between them. During the whole of the ensuing week my house will be filled with W. Spencer, Lord Cowper,† and a large party, and towards the end of the month I expect the whole Abercorn family, who will fill it again for about a fortnight ; but from about y<sup>e</sup> 22<sup>nd</sup> to the 28<sup>th</sup> I shall probably be alone, or nearly so, and, at all events, happy to see you.

'As you do not tell me where Mr. Morris's or Clarmont is, I shall enclose this to Lord Nelson at Monmouth, taking it for granted that it cannot fail to find so distinguished a person wherever he may happen to be. Your letter having, however, been a week in coming here, I doubt whether it will come to you in time. I shall therefore send another to Mr. Buckley's at Ludlow to waylay you there.'

683. A. L. S. from Mrs. Matcham to the same. Dated Bath, September 9th, 1802. 2 pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'As you gave us some hopes of seeing you, my dear Lady Hamilton, at Bath, on your return, we feel ourselves a little disappointed that you *passed* us ! but we are gratified by seeing in the papers your party is received as it ought *to be* in

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\* Written at the back of the preceding letter. On the fly-leaf Lady Hamilton has added, 'I go when you tell me the coach is ready,' to which Sir William retorted, 'This is not a fair answer to a fair confession of mine.' This exchange of conjugal amenities took place, apparently, during the journey to Wales.

† Peter Leopold Louis Francis Nassau, 5th Earl Cowper, 1778-1837, brother of the 4th Earl, whom he succeeded in 1799. His second wife was afterwards Lady Palmerston.

every place you pass through. You know we are of the same opinion that too many honours cannot be paid to our dear Friend. I long to have a full account of your trip, which I am sure must have been delightfull, as the weather has been very favourable for travelling. I shall be glad to hear that your Ladyship and Mrs. Nelson have escaped all the perils of bad roads. We have had an account of two or three houses since y<sup>r</sup> absence, but the enormous price that is asked in the neighbourhood of London has determined us to remain here the winter at least, though it would have been a great happiness to me to have been near Merton. Will you be so good as to tell the Doctor that I have got a bill from the Taylor's for the mourning Cloathes that were made for Abraham & the Coachman; the bill is £10 6s. 0d., which we will discharge if he thinks proper, & he can settle it with us. With our best wishes to all the party.'

684. A. L. from Sir William Hamilton to Lady Hamilton. No date (1802). 4 pages 4to. [H.]

'I have passed the last 40 years of my life in the hurry & bustle that must necessarily be attendant on a publick character. I am arrived at the age when some repose is really necessary, & I promised myself a quiet home, & altho' I was sensible, & said so when I married, that I shou'd be superannuated when my wife wou'd be in her full beauty and vigour of youth. That time is arrived, and we must make the best of it for the comfort of both parties. Unfortunately our tastes as to the manner of living are very different. I by no means wish to live in solitary retreat, but to have seldom less than 12 or 14 at table, & those varying continually, is coming back to what was become so irksome to me in Italy during the latter years of my residence in that country. I have no connections out of my own family. I have no complaint to make, but I feel that the whole attention of my wife is given to L<sup>d</sup> N. and his interest at Merton. I well know the purity of L<sup>d</sup> N.'s friendship for Emma and me, and I know how very uncomfortable it wou'd make his L<sup>p</sup>, our best friend, if a separation shou'd take place, & am therefore determined to do all in my power to prevent such an extremity, which wou'd be *essentially detrimental* to all parties, but wou'd be more sensibly felt by our dear friend than by us. Provided that our expences in housekeeping do not encrease beyond measure (of which I must own I see some danger), I am willing to go on upon our present footing; but as I cannot expect to live many years, every moment to me is precious, & I hope I may be allow'd sometimes to be my own master, & pass my time according to my own inclination, either by going my fishing parties on the Thames or by going to London to attend the Museum, R. Society, the Tuesday Club, & Auctions of pictures. I mean to have a light chariot or post chaise by the month, that I may make use of it in London and run backwards and forwards to Merton or to Shepperton, &c. This is my plan, & we might go on very well, but I am fully determined not to have more of the very silly altercations that happen but too often between us and embitter the present moments exceedingly. If really one cannot live comfortably together, a *wise* and well *concerted separation* is preferable; but I think, considering the probability of my not troubling any party long in this world, the best for us all wou'd be to bear those ills we have rather than flie to those we know not of. I have fairly stated what I have on my mind. There is no time for nonsense or trifling. I know and admire your talents & many excellent qualities, but I am not blind to your defects, & confess having many myself; therefore let us bear and forbear for God's sake.'

685. A. L. S. from Sir Joseph Banks to Charles Greville. Dated Revesby Abbey, September 30th, 1802. 3 pages 4to. [H.]

'I rejoice exceedingly that you have returned safe from your expedition, which I conclude could not in any part of it be an agreeable one to you, & I think you have done very wisely in preferring a route through Cornwall, where nature would arouse you at every step, to the artificial satisfaction of feasts, Mayors, & Aldermen, freedom of Rotten Boroughs, &c. I am sorry you see a prospect of increasing infirmities, but I fear mine increase upon me in a much more rapid way, as I



have been confined by the gout in Derbyshire at a season which I thought myself quite safe from it, & have arrived here only a fortnight ago.

'I thank you much for giving me an opportunity of clearing my Bank account, which, for two reasons, I wish not to remain a moment in arrear. I have no stamp by me, and have not therefore the power of drawing my Bill to order, but I am quite easy, for if you are so good as to pay the money to Mr. Darton your witness will be sufficient for me, so you may or you may not take a receipt, just as you see fitting, for the Bill, which I have enclosed made payable to Mr. Darton or bearer for £132 10s.

'I am here crippled & obliged to go to bed before the rest of the family, & to lye late in the morning. I hope, however, for better times, & hope, in which I am much inclined to indulge, is certainly one of our best comforts in this life. I rejoice sincerely to hear of H. M.'s goodness to Robert; he well deserves at H. M. hand all that can be done for him, & all that he deserves will be done for him, such an opinion I have of both personages.

'For God's sake make your Albanian bull into bull beef, and let Lady W. turn her Egyptian sheep into mutton. I am always shocked to hear of crosses with animals inferior in all parts to our native stock.

'I hope to see your Nelumburges before they are quite gone; if you get seed you will be magnificent, & why you should not, when your plants are as vigorous as those I have seen wild, I do not know. I want much to know if yours were double or single.

'Pray give me a line by return of post acknowledging the rec<sup>t</sup> of the Bill.'

686. A. L. S. from the Hon. Colonel Stewart to Lord Nelson. Dated Shornecliff Barracks, Sandgate, October 10th, 1802. 4 pages 4to. [P.]

'I have the honour of having now at my elbow your Lordship's two letters of the 27th and 28th of last month, and should apologize for not having earlier answered the application in favour of Mr. Porter, did I not conceive that the last ten days' mode of occupation, marching, preparing my regiment for a march, and arranging it in very uncomfortable cantonments, will in some measure plead my excuse. Having earnestly solicited a removal of my young regiment from the iniquity of Chatham, we have been ordered into these barracks, and into the three forts which are in front of Hythe, and shall probably be stationed here for the ensuing winter, the country is excellent for the movement of Chasseurs, and the neighbourhood seems tranquil and good; very ill equipped barracks, and much dispersion of my corps is my only complaint, but as a soldier and a man I, as well as my neighbours, find the world much composed of contrarieties, "*et qu'il n'y a point de roses sans leurs épines.*"

'Your Lordship's letter of the 28th September contains many sentiments of kindness towards me, and my private concerns of a political nature, which I must ever feel grateful for; on the subject of my late unsuccessful canvas in Scotland, you are pleased to express yourself with a degree of interest which no merits of mine have called for, and the whole history of Parliamentary representation (as it is carried on at least in that part of our island) has moreover blunted all my feelings so much, that I am not worthy to have an interest felt for me, whilst I am totally careless of the matter myself. For the six years that I represented the County of Wigton, I did my best to deserve well of it; it was apparently thought otherwise, and feeling tranquil in my own conscience upon the occasion, the present choice of that shire meets with my quiet acquiescence. I shall not be apt to try the seat again, feeling as I now do; but enough, my dear Lord, of personal concerns. Mr. Porter shall, upon the strength of your Lordship's recommendation, have my support and voice at the Magdalen. I have written with this purport to the clergyman of the Institution, Mr. Prince, who will inform me if any forms but that of my epistolary promise be necessary. I should like, if a leisure half hour bring the recollection of what I might like into your Lordship's memory, I should like, I was observing, to have your opinion upon the probable chance of long tranquillity to us all in this country, from the other side of the Channel,

‘Some things which were in yesterday’s newspapers, and the view of the Boulogne shore from my barrack window have together united, to make me think more than usual of this possibility, and when I have before me the spot where, little more than one twelvemonth ago, nearly the last gallant effort of our country was made under your guidance, and poor Parker fell, the thoughts of renewed hostilities run much in my mind. Heaven grant that there may be no necessity for such an event; but may Heaven also grant that we may not be so wanting in spirit as to await provocations and encroachments too long!

‘Adieu, my dear Lord. May I request that my respects may be made to Sir William and Lady Hamilton, and that I may ever sign myself, with the greatest truth, yours,’ &c.

‘I hear nothing from our Agent about the Baltic prize-money being arranged.

687. A. L. S. (in French) from Capitan Cadir Bey to the same. Dated Alexandria, October 10th, 1802. 2 pages folio. [P.]

‘Comme j’ay eu la liberté de vous écrire 8 lettres sans jamais avoir l’honneur de recevoir une de votre Excellence, pour savoir l’état de votre santé, qu’il m’et cy cher comme la mienne, je profite de l’occasion de notre cher amie le Général Lord Cavan\* pour vous écrire aussy la présente, espérant qu’il vous parviendrat sans autres, ainsy je prie votre Excellence de se donner la peine de me donner de vos chères nouvelles, et même de vos officiers et de vos officiers.

‘Je vous prie, Excellence, de donner la lettre cy-enclus à notre ami Lord Amelton, et de lui faire mes respects.’

688. A. L. S. from Rev. W. Nelson to the same. Dated Hilborough, October 19th, 1802. 3½ pages 4to, with Superscription. [H.]

‘Mr. Ryder, of Lincoln’s Inn, has informed me that he has made the Transfer of the 908*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* Old South Sea Annuities, which became divisible into eight parts at our Father’s death, and that your Lordship’s share is as follows, viz. :—

To Lord Nelson ... .. 227*l.* 1*s.* 8*d.*

113*l.* 10*s.* 10*d.* as executor of Mr. Maurice Nelson, & 113*l.* 10*s.* 10*d.* in his own right. Therefore you have now standing in your own name 227*l.* 1*s.* 8*d.* O. S. S., which you may sell & dispose of, & convert to your own use whenever you think proper; the dividends on the *whole* have been rec<sup>d</sup> up to Michaelmas last. Mr. Ryder has paid himself and sent y<sup>e</sup> remainder to me, which is to be accounted for among my Father’s personal property; of the other six shares, Mr. Bolton has rec<sup>d</sup> 113*l.* 10*s.* 10*d.* as Edmund’s executor.

‘The same myself & Mr. Matcham. One share is transferred to your & my joint names as trustees for Mrs. Bolton & Ann & Suckling, deceased, are paid to me as executor to my Father, to be carried to his account. I shall write Mr. Matcham an account of his 113*l.* 10*s.* 10*d.* for him to do as he pleases with it.

‘Mr. Hotham was instituted to B<sup>m</sup> Sutton last Friday, and if he is not very hard upon us for dilapidations, I hope, when my Father’s accounts are closed, we shall divide an hundred pounds each.

‘I am happy to hear you are quite recovered, & am, yours,’ &c.

689. A. L. S. from Thomas Bowen to Lady Hamilton. Dated ‘Friday night, October 22nd, 1802, Portman Square, No. 4.’ 2 pages 4to. [P.]

‘I have this moment received your Ladyship’s kind and affectionate letter; but this is not the first by many civilities I have received from the same kind hand, whose goodness of heart is but to little known in this country. You say you had little or no education until you were 17—this must be meant as an

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\* Richard, 7th Earl Cavan, 1763–1837, only son of the 6th Earl, whom he succeeded in 1778. He was a general officer, Colonel of the 45th Foot, and commanded a division in Egypt in 1800.



encouragement to me ; but if I was to begin the world again, I have not the presumption to think I could ever equal your Ladyship. I speak truth when I say there is not in England—nay, scarcely in the world—a woman who is half so well educated as your Ladyship, and, I will add, possessed of a better heart. Therefore the merit rests with you, and you only. Miss Nelson is truly fortunate ; she is a good girl, and have not a doubt but what she is sensible, and will be more so every day of her good fortune, in having so good an instructor.

‘As to my being laughed out of my plan, I am determined to give it a fair trial, altho’ I am sensible everything is against me, as I never had any education at all, being turned out into the world at the age of 11 ; but the more difficulty there is attaining a thing, the more pleasure there is in it after being attained ; besides, I am in possession of your opinion on the subject, therefore nothing can, or shall, bias me to the contrary. I am obliged, also, for the kind hint you gave me with respect to the people I am to live with, and you may be sure I shall be very careful of what I say, as I consider every Frenchman a spy and a scoundrel.

‘Mr. Brent informed me the other day that the oculist gave but a very indifferent opinion with respect to my Lord’s eye ; but I trust in God it’s without foundation, as it is the brightest jewel in the Crown. I declare solemnly to God that, if it were possible to replace his eye with one of mine, I would undergo the operation. I love, respect, and esteem him for his private virtues, but I adore him as an officer and saviour of his country ; and I should do more for my King and country in that one act than I shall ever do, if I was to live to the years of Methusala ; and the man who would not do as much is a traitor to his country. God bless him, and God bless you all is the sincere wish of your Ladyship’s most grateful,’ &c.

‘P.S.—After I am settled with my new acquaintance, I will give your Ladyship my opinion of them freely, &c., &c. Terms, £8 8s. 0d. per month ; I find wines, breakfast, and coals, &c., &c. Fair enough so far.’

690. A. L. S. from Mr. Matcham to Lord Nelson. Dated Hartham Park, October 28th, 1802. 3 pages 4to. [P.]

‘I cannot think we ought to have more for our 3 per cents. than the current price. What we are anxious for is, that you may find a convenience in having the whole of the settlement money to purchase Axe’s estate, without which Merton may become an objectionable residence. It would be a pleasant reflection for me, if we should go abroad, to have my wife’s jointure out of the Funds, for should any untoward appearances arise, your brother might be unwilling to sell out in my absence. In respect to the want of papers, Axe can give ample security, & his long possession of the property would go far to establish a valid claim. I am heartily glad that Linton, at length, feels as he ought to do—great things may be done at a comparatively trifling expence ; it will give me pleasure to see the plan of improvements—the future stream, & the flourishing plantations on its banks ; I hope some landscape gardner of acknowledged taste will plan it.

‘God grant we may have no war. I am convinc’d our interference will never do any good ; we are only swindled and laught at. Besides, these Emperors & Kings do not consider that their quarrels impede my family arrangements.

‘I am at a friend’s house near Corsham, which will account for my not answering your Lordship’s letter by return of post. The day before yesterday we paid our respects to the Marquis of Lansdowne, who is perfectly well, & hopes to see you when you come into Wiltshire, of which there is a report. Should you go again to Fonthill Abbey, can I meet you there—Paddy would say as one of your suite ? It would delight me to see that singular and magnificent pile ; & when finish’d & open to the publick, I may be at too great a distance.

‘It is my intention to accompany Sir Chas. Malet\* soon to London. I have

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\* Sir Charles Warre Malet, F.S.A., F.R.S., 1750–1815, having filled several high official and diplomatic appointments under the East India Company, was created a Baronet in 1791.

some business to settle at Hackney, which may keep me there a couple of days, after which I shall go to Merton, & if there is a spare bed, stay a couple of days and nights.

‘Our best respects attend Sr W<sup>m</sup> & Lady Hamilton—the Doctor and Mrs. N., we believe, are in the country—but remember us to a lively girl there, whose hand we hope to kiss, and salute her as Dutchess of —— we forget the title.

‘That you may ever enjoy the comforts and happiness you deserve, is the sincere wish of your,’ &c.

691. A. L. S. from Governor Ball to Lady Hamilton. Dated Malta, November 8th, 1802. 4 pages 4to. [P.]

‘I participated in the gratifying scene you and your good Sir William witnessed in the national testimonies of gratitude which our brave and good Nelson received in his journey to Wales. I desired all the paragraphs in the newspapers which mentioned it, to be marked for my perusal. I think his Lordship and Sir William must have been almost overpowered by such a load of caresses and kindness, and would feel relieved at the sight of Merton and the prospect of repose; as for your Ladyship, I believe you could *hip, hip, hip*, your Nelson when every other power was exhausted. I have introduced your relation to my son, who has carried him about the country, and delighted him much. Captain Capel is very kind to all his young gentlemen, and attends particularly to their improvement. I am glad to hear the Tysons are well: have the goodness to tell honest John that I have written to the Treasury, and represented his losses by undertaking the commission of purchasing corn for the Island of Malta. I shall write to him soon. Miss Charlotte Nelson, I dare say, is fully sensible of the great and very rare advantages she has in the tuition of so accomplished a patroness. Pray give me all the traits you know of the Prince of Pantelaria, who is the Neapolitan Minister here; he has a difficult task; he is afraid of offending the French Minister, and it is to be apprehended that this passion will operate more powerfully than love for the English—time will prove this.

‘The Deputies often talk of the kind attention and hospitality with which they were honoured by your Ladyship, Sir William, and Lord Nelson. Our business here is a jumble, and it is difficult to say what will be finally arranged.

‘Adieu, my dear sister, present my best respects to good Sir William, and believe me ever,’ &c.

692. A. L. S. from William Haslewood to Lord Nelson. Dated Craven Street, November 18th, 1802. 3 pages 4to. [P.]

‘I was prevented attending my office yesterday by the sudden illness of my brother. I find your Lordship looked over the correspondence between Messrs. Stride and Franks & myself, and I was much concerned not to have had an opportunity of hearing your sentiments upon it. Mr. Axe, your Lordship observed, is obstinately bent on doing wrong. He will neither comply with what Mr. Romilly, Mr. Butler, & Mr. Preston think he ought, nor refer the matter to the determination of a third (indifferent) person. What is to be done with him? There are two courses for your Lordship to pursue;—*one*, to institute a suit in Chancery immediately, when an order might be obtained in a short time, & pending other enquiries, for you to be let into possession (or, rather, receipt of the rents) of the estate, on payment of the purchase-money into Court; the *other*, which perhaps may be preferable, to invest your money again in the Funds, which are not likely to be lower, and to let the matter rest *in statu quo* till Mr. Axe shall be better advised, or till the expiration of the lease, whichever may first happen.

‘I should wish to talk the matter over with your Lordship, either in town or country, as you might find most convenient; and, expecting your commands, I have the honour to be,’ &c.



693. Memoranda on Malta from Lord Nelson to Mr. Addington (in Lady Hamilton's handwriting). No date\* (Merton, December 4th, 1802). 5 pages 4to. [P.]

'It must never belong to France. *England does not want it.* If Russia will not guarantee Malta, then a new negotiation must be sett on foot, and we must hold fast until it is settled ; but if Russia will guarantee Malta, then it will become a serious consideration in the new state of the Order whether it can be carried into effect. Malta is materially changed since the Treaty of Amiens, by Spain having (in breach of that Treaty) taken away a great part of that revenue which was to support the expences of the Order, and if one power can do it, another can do the same, and the Order of Malta, unable to maintain itself, falls of course. N.B.—It is easy to see from whose advice Spain has acted. Other countries may follow the same advice.

'The Order of Malta cannot, in keeping the fortification in repair, ships, gallies, &c., &c., be kept up for less than the former revenue, and by the introduction of the new "langue" the pride of Spaniards will not allow them nor even the Italians to enter into the Order, and they brought a vast accession of flowing wealth to the Order which now will fail. Under these circumstances it becomes the consideration what can be done with it to accord to the spirit of the Treaty of Amiens—that neither France nor England shall possess it.

'The King of the Two Sicilies is the acknowledged Lord of the island. Even the Maltese, after the destruction of the Order, in their addresses, stile themselves his subjects, therefore, on the face of the Act there could be no objection to giving it to him. But the consideration is how a weak State can keep it out of the power of so powerful a one as France—only by guarantees that the King of the Two Sicilies shall hold Malta on the same terms as the Order (if it is possible that it shall always be neutral) and tied up by the guarantee that on no consideration of exchange of territory shall it be given up. The Emperor of Russia having guaranteed all the King of Naples's dominions last year, will not probably object to do the same for Malta. It is so much the interest of the Two Sicilies to keep Malta from France (for he would lose Sicily if he gave it up), that I think him, under guarantees, the most proper person to have it. France could not object by the spirit of the Treaty of Amiens to its being placed (the Order not being possible to be restored) in the King of Naples's hands under the same restrictions, and this country would save 300,000*l.* a year, and by [it], as far as human faith and foresight go, keep Malta out of the hands of France.

'The King of Naples can wish for neither France or England to possess Malta. By the first he must lose Sicily, by the latter he may be involved in a war about Malta, should France and England go to war; and this, in my opinion, could be the only rational inducement for the King of Naples to pay the great expences of holding Malta.

'If neither of these plans can be accomplished, we have no choice but to keep Malta.'

694. A. L. S. from Sir W. Hamilton to Charles Greville. No date (December 23rd, 1802). 1½ pages 4to., with Superscription. [H.]

'My Lady having left this letter† on her toilet I supposed necessities were

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\* The paper bears no date, but, according to Sir H. Nicholas's *Dispatches and Letters*, it was written from Merton to Mr. Addington on the date given above, and exists in Nelson's autograph in the Sidmouth papers.

† The letter, on the blank part of which Sir William's is written, is from Messrs. Coutts, the bankers, to Lady Hamilton, and is dated Strand, December 21st, 1802. 'Agreeable to your Ladyship's desire we have the honour to acquaint you that the present balance of your money in our hands is twelve shillings and eleven pence. We have the honour to be,' &c.

pressing, and I have given her an additional credit on Coutts for £130, so that of the £700 wanting to clear all, having had £120 before, I am to pay £450. If I am not soon paid by the Treasury, I am determined to apply to Mr. Addington myself; it is most shamefull. I am returning to-day to dinner at Merton. I attended the Council yesterday at R. S. Sir Joseph [Banks] came, but was too ill to come upstairs. I went down to him, & was glad that I had it in my power to assist him, so I took the Chair at Council and in the evening. I think of going on Sunday to stay a day or two at Windsor, to have an opportunity of wishing their Majesties a merry Xmas. Ever y<sup>rs</sup>, &c.

'P. S.—Do see what you can do with Vansitart, but surely I will not tamely submit to be robbed by the Treasury much longer.'

695. A. L. S. from Richard Bulkeley to Lord Nelson. Dated Ludlow, December 26th, 1802. 4 pages 4to. [P.]

'May you, my dear Nelson, enjoy with increased honours and happiness very many returns of the season, that is, may you be as happy as I wish you and as you deserve; your cup of joy will then overflow, and my own would be much added to could I be a frequent eye-witness of your being in possession of affluence, health and spirits, all which are necessary to the complete enjoyment of your hard-earn'd honors.

'Many thanks to you for your obliging letter of the 23d, and for the trouble you have been so good to take about an ass for me. I have no doubts as to the animal being one that possesses great merits in his way, but let him turn out as he may, and his price exceed ever so much my expectation, I shall always be thankful to you for your endeavours to procure him. When he arrives, and when you are acquainted with all the expences attending the gentleman, so as to let me know, I will send you an order for the amount, or pay it into any hands you shall direct to receive it. I fear that the sudden transition will nip the poor devil, and that his *braced cods* will be such a surprize upon him, that, unless he is a *reasoner*, he may fret himself to death, for fear of their never more being an ornament to his heels; and should he come during the very cold weather, I shall apprehend some difficulty and much trouble in getting him down so far.

'As to the wine, I fear that I must take my chance of your merchants ever reaching Tuscany. I know there are warehouses in London at which Florence wine is now and then to be had, but it is so delicate a wine that it very seldom can be procured from those places in prime order, at least so I have found it.

'I heard the other day from Dick, who has been, as you know I suppose, to Lisbon. The ship is ordered into dock, and he says the repairs, paying off, and remanning will keep her in port three months. He repeats your kindness to him at Merton, and speaks of Lady Hamilton's great civility to him; at the same time he requests me to present his best respects when I write.

'Mrs. Bulkeley desires me to offer her best compliments to you, Lady and Sir Wm. Hamilton, to which pray add mine. And if the Doctor is with you, remember me to him also. By the bye, I am sorry and surpris'd at not having seen him announced in the papers for Church preferment; I wish that ministers would act like other men, and as they would feel themselves obliged to do if out of office, that is—keep their words within a reasonable time. Adieu, my dear friend, &c.

696. A. L. S. from Mrs. Tyson to Lady Hamilton. Dated Monday noon, December 28th, 1802. 2½ pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'May I ask you this favor, and obtain your consent for Miss Hartly to go with us to a grand ball given by the Rector of the parish, Mr. Horsely, son to the



Bishop of St. Asaph.\* On Friday, on passing, wee call'd on Mrs. Horsely. In chatting I said I meant to ask a young maid to stay with us, and to bring her, for had Miss H. been at home, it is our intentions to request your ladyship to let her return with us. Mr. and Mrs. H. have politely said in the note wee shall be glad to see your young friend, and pray, my dear Lady H., let me beg the favour of Miss Hartly company. I am told last ball they had eighty people, all the genteel part of about Woolwich, all *us* in the dock-yard, the Capt<sup>s</sup> and wives, and a greater part of the officers in the Marine and Artillery. I will dress Miss Hartly and we will go comfortable—Capt. and Mrs. Page and us 3 in a glass coach. On Thursday we shall be in London (Mr. Tyson has Capt. Peard to meet); if Miss H. comes to London in the morning she can return to Woolwich with us at 4, and take the trunk with her things. Do, pray, pray, my Lady.

'Compt<sup>s</sup> to Mrs. Nelson, and beg her to ask it off Mrs. Cadogan, and on Saturday we bring Miss H. home. I really spent a most happy time at Merton, and a heartfelt joy, being happy with my dear Tyson a whole year, and taking the Sacrament with a *composed mind*, which God knows I never thought to have had again last Christmas day. I bless you, Lady Hamilton, and may God send you health to enjoy your long life, I hope, and many, many thanks to good Lord Nelson *for all this comfort he has given us*. Hoping to hear your assent and soon, my dear Lady, believe me,' &c.

'P.S.—Mr. T. has a little sore throat, but it will go off to-night after he has taken something warm, and go to bed early, which he dearly loves: at 9 often we go.'

697. A. L. S. from Mr. R. Bulkeley to Lord Nelson. Dated Ludlow, January 8th, 1803. 3 pages 4to. [P.]

'I am very sincerely obliged to you for your letter of the 6th, giving me information of the arrival of the Maltese, for which I shall dispatch a messenger to-morrow, and I have by this day's post written a letter of thanks to Captain Maxwell, and have directed a person at Portsmouth to give a guinea to the man who took care of the ass on the passage, and to pay other charges. I look with impatience to the time when I shall get the animal into my stable. Sir A. Ball's accounts of him raises my hopes, and I expect a nonsuch.

'In your last letter you told me that he cost thirty pounds, which I now send you an order for, and to which I have added five pounds, as I recollect my son's writing to me from on board the *St. George* in the Baltic, to tell me that you had given him five pounds, and when I mentioned it to you at Merton, you said, "Hardy will settle it," but when I paid him his advance to Dick, he took no notice of the money that you advanced; it therefore remained unpaid, and for that reason I have included it in the present draft. I have heard from one or two quarters that the *Amphion* is intended for the East Indies; it therefore occurs to me to suggest what appears to me of some moment to Dick. Next month he will have served three years, and I hope and believe that, when he shall have served his time, he will be found perfectly qualified to be made [lieutenant?]; supposing him then to be in the East Indies at that period, and that the then Commander-in-chief should be a person of whom you may not like to ask a favour, and that the Captain of Dick's ship should not have weight with the Admiral, may he not miss his promotion? This reasoning you can easily enter into, and judge of its propriety better than I can. I am, therefore, particularly desirous of knowing your opinion, by which I shall be entirely guided. If you say let him go, I shall be satisfied; but should you prefer his being on the Home or Mediterranean station, I shall be equally pleased. Do, therefore, my dear friend, let me hear from you on the subject.

'Mrs. Bulkeley desires her best remembrance to you, and joins me in compliments to Sir William and Lady Hamilton. I am,' &c.

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\* Samuel Horsley, 1733-1806, a learned prelate, and a man of science, elected a Fellow of the Royal Society in 1767. He became Prebend of Gloucester in 1787, Bishop of St. David's in 1788, of Rochester in 1793 and of St. Asaph in 1802. The son, Heneage Horsley, 1776-1847, was first Rector of Woolwich, then of Gresford, and ultimately Dean of Brechin.

698. A. L. S. from Admiral Duckworth to the same. Dated *Leviathan*, Jamaica, January 16th, 1803. 4 pages 4to. [P.]

'The November and December packets having trod so close upon each other as to be here together, I have by the former to express my warmest thanks for your friendly letters of October 9th and November 28th, which drew forth my admiration at the glorious uncertainty of the law, even when all the combinations of it, turn them in common sense which way you will, must be operative in our favour; but if influence or power can cause the palladium of our liberty to be thus perverted, I shudder for our posterity. Yet, as I am convinced you will take every just care of our interest, let it turn as it will, I shall be satisfied in having endeavoured to protect the rights of our profession against what appears to me a most unjust and unprecedented claim; and from the arguments which appear in the paper, they dwell much upon the cause of the *St. Ann* with Admiral Murray, which, in my opinion, is quite irrelevant, as he was a Flag Officer, serving *alone*, and consequently, when not relieved, is like other Flag Officers coming from abroad, entitled to share till under other orders or his flag struck. With respect to the Marquis de Niza, the law of reciprocity must prevent him from sharing for the capture of vessels of a nation with which he was in amity, and I shall think even for French, if the Portuguese colours were not in sight; but should common sense lose its force in these, we must have a claim upon the captures made by his squadron from the Tunisians, &c.

'I cannot but feel sensible of your Lordship's friendly sentiments of the public benefit by my continuance in this command, but I consider, whilst *a peace lasts*, an officer that has been above forty out of forty-four years' servitude on board ship, and for these last ten years never had a moment to attend to his private affairs, or see a favourite daughter for six years, has a full claim to relief, and I trust we have a thousand as good as he to occupy the place; besides, if I was to stay till Buonaparte's ambition was satiated, or St. Domingo in a perfect state of tranquillity, I must have a longer tenure in this world than I expect. I therefore, my good Lord, cannot but be anxious to return, on which event I anticipate much pleasure in paying my respects at Merton, and personally assuring your Lordship that I have the honour to feel, with real regard,' &c.

'P.S.—I will beg your Lordship to say all that is kind and respectful to Sir William and Lady Hamilton, believing me ever yours,' &c.

699. Copy of Letter (in Lady Hamilton's handwriting) from Lord Nelson to Lord St. Vincent. Dated 23 Piccadilly, January 28th, 1803. 3 pages 4to. [P.]

'As your indifferent state of health will, I fear, prevent your coming to town for some time, I write to your Lordship on a subject which we once entered upon, but which you desired to defer till the Dutch ships were paid for, when you would settle our Copenhagen business with Lord Hawkesbury.

'I am now, by desire of several captains, asking your Lordship if any decision has taken place on this business. If you refer me to Lord Hawkesbury as the proper minister for this business, or any other Minister, I shall address myself to him (or them); or if you think that a public letter to the Secretary of the Admiralty is the proper channel, I will write one to him. It is now two years since that battle was fought.

'I own myself exactly of the same opinion as when I wrote to you from the Baltic, that under all the peculiar circumstances of the case, *no war with Denmark*, therefore no condemnation could take place, that it would be better to give a gratuity for our services; I said (I believe) £100,000 was as little as could be offer'd. You differed from me, but wrote me that you would recommend a large price to be given for the *Holstein*. You will, my dear Lord, see the situation I am placed in, and excuse my resorting to you to advise me in what channel I shall proceed to bring our Copenhagen prize business to a close. With every kind wish for the re-establishment of your health, believe me yours,' &c.



700. A. L. S. from Mrs. Bolton to Lady Hamilton. Dated 'Cranwich, Friday, noon,' February or March, 1803. 3 pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'I shall, my dear Lady, be happy to visit you & my brother at Merton; to be sure Mrs. Matcham will be an agreeable addition to the party. Poor thing, she is not very able to cope with a cough. I should be alarmed, but that I know it in some degree belongs to her situation, which I am sorry enough to hear, as I am afraid she will breed herself to death, which was the case with our poor mother. Some time the beginning of April I hope to see you, with your permission I shall bring Kitty with me. I am sorry to hear you have all been ill; hope Sir W<sup>m</sup> is daily getting strength. The weather is not very favourable for invalids; with us the ground is now covered with snow. What is the rumour of war that our papers are full off? I hope the storm will blow over. God forbid my Lord should be called for *again*, it may be a good thing for his country, but a very uncomfortable one for his friends. He has gained glory enough for *any one man*; I wish he would think so. I have seen the D<sup>r</sup> looking very well, & in what we call a diamond humour (that is, in the very best). Susanna went down with her father to see M<sup>rs</sup> Nelson; the weather was too cold for me. M<sup>r</sup> Bolton thanks your Ladyship kindly for your invitation & the pipe, but this is a busy time with farmers. I am pleased to hear such a good account of Charlotte: she is a good girl, & I always loved her. All our family, including Capt. Bolton, desire to be kindly remembered to you & my Lord. I shall be glad to see M<sup>rs</sup> Cadogan again; I have a great respect for her, she is so good. Believe me,' &c.

701. A. L. S. from Alexander Davison to Lord Nelson. Dated Calais, February 3rd, 1803. 2 pages 4to. [H.]

'Long ere this I had settled my return to St. James's Square, after having reached Paris, spending a fortnight there, and setting off from thence in great good health for Bruxelles and Antwerp, my dear boy William was taken extremely ill at Lisle, and it was with difficulty I could get him with safety on to this place. He has now been confined to his bed a fortnight, in a delirium, and only within these two days the fever has taken a favourable turn, and the physician considers him out of danger. You may well believe the vexation and concern this unfortunate circumstance occasions me. I shall hope the best, though the doctor tells me I must not expect to move from hence sooner than the 15th. What a prison—state of misery. If my absence occasions to you any pecuniary inconvenience, apply to my bankers, and show to them *this* side of my letter, and I authorise them to pay to your order five thousand pounds sterling. This possibly may supply your present wants. If an extension be necessary, command the purse of your ever,' &c.

702. Draft of Letter (in Lady Hamilton's handwriting) from Lord Nelson to Mr. Alexander Stephens.\* Dated 23 Piccadilly, February 10th, 1803. 3 pages 4to. [P.]

'By your letter, I believe that you wish to be correct in your History, and therefore desire to be informed of a transaction relative to Naples. I cannot, at this moment, enter at large into the subject to which you allude; but I shall briefly say that neither Cardinal Ruffo, Captain Foote, or any other person, had any power vested in them to enter into any treaty with the rebels—that even the paper which they so improperly signed was not acted upon, as I very happily arrived at Naples, and prevented such an infamous transaction from taking place. I put aside the dishonourable treaty, and sent the rebels notice of it; therefore, when the rebels surrendered, they came out of the castle as they ought, without any honours of war, and trusting to the judgment of their Sovereign.

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\* Alexander Stephens, 1757–1821, a miscellaneous writer, author of *A History of the Wars of the French Revolution*, published in 1803.

‘If you allude to Mrs. Williams’\* book, I can assure you that nearly all she writes relative to Naples is either entirely destitute of foundation or falsely represented. If you wish to have any conversation with me on this subject, I am at home every morning at 10 o’clock, and am,’ &c.

703. A.L.S. from Mr. R. Bulkeley to Lord Nelson. Dated Ludlow, February 17th, 1803. 3 pages 4to. [P.]

‘I am aware that I ought not to call upon your eyes to read my letter, after the restrictions of Moseley,† and the account that you give of yourself, which I can with strict truth say *grieves me very much*, and though I don’t desire you to answer me, but, on the contrary, request you not to write, still I cannot impose silence on myself, and do so much injustice to my heart as not to express my deep concern at what gives you any serious cause for alarm, and which seems to threaten a severe misfortune to our country. My consolation in the present instance arises from my confidence in Moseley’s skill, and my conviction that he will not trifle, or practise experiments, where so much is at stake, and I am sure that your resolution to withstand every temptation to deviate from his rules is sufficient to ensure him success. I shall be impatient to hear how you go on, and therefore beg that if any material change takes place, you will employ the pen of some one about you to communicate the intelligence to me, which I most ardently hope will be of the most pleasing kind.

‘From every thing that the papers related as appearing upon the trials, I had no idea that the detestable conspiracy had gone the lengths which you seem to imagine, or involved in it any (poor Despard‡ excepted) but of the lowest orders. I am sorry that you think it so extensive, and of so serious a nature; however, I still think and hope that the country at large is staunch to the constitution: in that case, the disaffection of a great majority of the Guards would not, I trust, when joined only to the rabble, without their officers, be able to effect more than partial evils, though certainly thousands on all sides might fall, and many families be reduced to penury.

‘I rejoice that you have given your attention to the subject of our seamen; if we don’t keep them in good humour, and *firm from principle*, our decline must be very rapid indeed. I can have no doubts of the Ministry paying every attention, and giving the greatest weight to your recommendations upon this subject. In all your systems you have shewn your preference for decision and vigour, and the good effects have been proved in all your actions. Even in matters of less moment I am an enemy to half and timid measures, and in the unfortunate executions which are to take place, I would have Government make all the parade which the case will admit of, and shew that it is undaunted. Despard ought not to be spared. The King owes to the country that the execution should take place.

‘The Maltese is perfectly well, and recovered from the effects of his voyage. He is beautiful, and as fond of biting and kicking as any of his fraternity. Those of this country are all heavy and stupid looking, but this, on the contrary, is most playful, with a very animated eye.

‘Offer Mrs. Bulkeley’s and my kind respects to Sir William and Lady Hamilton, Dr. and Mrs. Nelson, and believe me,’ &c.

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\* Helen Maria Williams, 1762–1827, an English woman of letters, principally known as a warm supporter of the French Revolution. She was the author of a number of works now mostly forgotten.

† Dr. Benjamin Moseley, a well-known medical practitioner, who succeeded Dr. Monsey as Physician to Chelsea Hospital. He died in 1819.

‡ Edward Marcus Despard, 1751–1803, a Colonel in the army, who had served in the expedition to San Juan with Nelson, and afterwards superintended the military defences of Jamaica. In 1784 he was made superintendent of the logwood cutters of Yucatan, but was eventually charged with cruel and illegal actions, was sent to England to be tried in 1790, but in 1792 was informed there was no real accusation against him. Becoming soured and embittered by the persistent refusals he met with in claiming compensation, he began to plot against the Government, but was betrayed, arrested, tried, and condemned to death for high treason. He was hanged and then his head cut off, his remains, which were handed to his widow, who was present at the execution, being buried in St. Paul’s churchyard.



704. A. L. S. from the same to the same. Dated Ludlow, March 9th, 1803. 3 pages 4to. [P.]

'Your last letter gave me great concern, because it speaks of your suffering eye, but is perfectly silent as to any probability of speedy relief. Do, my good friend, tell me who you have consulted besides Moseley, who, though an *excellent physician*, is not, I apprehend, a *professed oculist*. And you have given so much reason to the country to look with confidence for essential advantages from your future services, that it has some right to require of you to seek for every aid, and to do every thing in your power to preserve your health. Let that claim then which your country has upon you, call forth your utmost exertions.

'I highly approve of your withholding the money which I intended for an object, who, as I conceived *you interested yourself about*, I concluded *might be deserving*, and if you think her so, my donation is still at your service to appropriate as you think proper, but I am by no means ambitious of classing myself, or being a contributor with her late husband's associates, or with such villains as *Citizen Hardy*.\*

'I find that the Board of Admiralty has established *Club Law*, and that the First Lord† has a most *powerful support* in a man who has often proved his readiness and courage in a more honourable way than that of frightening an emaciated Secretary. Ministers would, by all accounts, gladly get rid of the Earl, but he loves power and patronage too well to indulge them by *taking miff*. Have we any chance, in case of a vacancy, of seeing the place filled by a man who would most ably and honourably execute the duties of the office, and who I wish to see gratified in every desire of his heart? You can't be at a loss to guess who I mean, you know my sentiments too well, and that I am at all times your,' &c.

'P. S.—I just understood that the *Amphion* is ordered to Ireland to receive seamen. Give my compliments to Sir William and Lady Hamilton.'

705. A. L. S. from R. Nelson to the same. Dated [Plymouth] Dock, March 12th, 1803. 1 page 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'This sudden alteration in politics has induc'd many young men to stand forth in and for the defence of our country, and should not the alarm blow over, I think there is no doubt but your Lordship's good services will again be call'd forth. Under that idea I take the liberty of introducing to you my relation, Captain George Cocks, whose wish it is to serve under your command in any way or in any shape you may think proper. He has been six years with my good friend, Sir William Parker (four years of which his first Lieu<sup>t</sup>), and, had Sir William liv'd to have been employed, would doubtless had him his Captain. His abilities are well known as an able, good officer, and will do credit to my recommendation, on which acc<sup>t</sup> I take this liberty, and should you hoist your flag, I hope sincerely you'll take him under your command, which will much oblige yours,' &c.

'P. S.—Your namesake‡ grows a fine boy.'

706. A. L. S. from Mrs. Bolton to Lady Hamilton. Dated Cranwich, March 21st, 1803. 3 pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'Thanks, my dear Lady, for your letter, I am afraid all hopes of keeping my dear brother with us, is now over (Bonaparte must be severely punished for his *insolence*). God preserve & restore him again to us in safety, then what a

\* Antoine François Hardy, 1756–1823, a French politician and medical practitioner, who, in 1793, was elected representative of the *Seine-Inférieure* to the National Convention, where he made himself remarkable for the violence of his diatribes against the party which happened to be down. On the restoration of the Bourbons, he returned to the practice of medicine. The money mentioned in the letter was, of course, intended for Mrs. Despard.

† Earl St. Vincent.

‡ The writer's grandchild, born in 1801, and called after Nelson.

happy party we shall all meet at Merton, may it be soon is my prayer. I find by a letter from Capt. Bolton Sir W<sup>m</sup> has taken a medicine which has made him better; this mild weather must be greatly in his favour. I sincerely hope he will be restored to you. Will your Ladyship permit me the privilege of friendship, to request your interest with my Lord in favour of Capt. Bolton, the nearer he is placed to him the better I shall like it, granting his request will confer an *additional* obligation on me? The young man himself is anxious to serve with Lord N., which makes me say the more.

'Mrs. Pierson & her little girl are with us: the child is the exact image of poor Pierson; she begs her comp<sup>ts</sup>. I am sure had the D<sup>r</sup> or M<sup>rs</sup> Nelson known the present situation of affairs, they never would have left you.

'Mr Bolton is gone to Retford Assizes as one of a special jury in a cause for *Defamation*, the plaintiff, Mr Edward Ashley; Erskine\* & Garrow† are to plead, therefore a seat in the jury box will be no unpleasant thing. Whenever you have a moment to spare give me a line just to say peace or war, & when & where my Lord is going, for the papers are no dependence. Give my kind & affectionate love to my brother; I do not write to him as I know you will express my feelings & anxious wishes for him. I am,' &c.

707. A. L. S. from Mr. R. Bulkeley to Lord Nelson. Dated March 23rd, 1803. 3 pages 4to. [P.]

'This infernal threat of war, and consequent bustle, I am sure, has entirely engaged all your time and thoughts; therefore, from the moment that the subject was announced officially, I knew that I was not to expect to know anything about you but through the newspapers. Satisfied as I am as to your dislike to writing, and knowing that it is not an easy task with the left hand, and that you have at such a time no leisure for letter writing, still, my anxious friendship and desire to be acquainted with everything that concerns you, has made me look with impatient hope for the arrival of every post for the last fortnight.

'You have proved yourself too true a prophet, for you have said ever since the peace that it could not be of long duration; and though I hoped you might be mistaken, still I had my fears, and now confess that if war was inevitable, in the course of a very few years from the peace, I am better satisfied that we should *embrace* the first *justifiable* cause for war, while our *brilliant achievements* in the last are fresh upon our own and that of our enemies' memories, and whilst the breast of every *effective* sailor burns with desire to follow the *unexampled example that you have set them*. Tell me, my dear Nelson, when you can, all you can (consistently with *State secrecy*) as to your own probable destination. Poor Varden is gone to town to offer; I wish that he had his *flag* and at quiet in Ludlow. He is a very honorable and good *old man*. I offered during the late war, repeatedly, my poor services without *fee* or *reward*, I was coolly thanked, but not accepted, and I did not think it necessary to exert much interest to put myself to great inconvenience by undertaking the training and commanding a set of fellows in a profession for which, in our country, I have the most thorough contempt, notwithstanding Lords Moira and Hutcheson's *figs to each other*. If I was a sailor, which I ought to have been, I would cut off both my arms rather than be idle at such a time. Can you tell me where the *Amphion* is gone? Dick is now old enough to enter into the glory and honour of his profession. He must earn those laurels which his father missed, and perhaps was not equal to the attainment of.

'My best compliments to Sir William and Lady Hamilton. I am,' &c.

\* Thomas, Lord Erskine, 1750-1823, the celebrated Lawyer and Lord Chancellor. In 1778 he was called to the bar, where he made a large fortune, and in 1806 was made Lord Chancellor, an appointment which was generally condemned, and after which he sank into comparative insignificance.

† Sir William Garrow, 1760-1840, a well-known lawyer and consummate advocate, made Attorney-General in 1813, and in 1817 Baron of the Exchequer. He was admitted a Member of the Privy Council in 1832.



708. A. L. S. from Dr. Baird to the same. Dated Portsmouth, March 24th, 1803. 3 pages 4to. [P.]

‘My unexpected and hasty departure from London on Saturday night totally precluded me doing myself the honour of waiting on you, and since I have been here, I have been so engaged on board the *Neptune*, that I have scarcely time to write a daily report to the Admiralty. She is now, I trust, in good health, and the means pursued will preserve it. The newspapers of to-day announce the *Victory* commissioned for your Lordship, if so, Mr. Allen, the surgeon of the *Venerable*, is the surgeon I would recommend, if Mr. Bell stays with Lord Keith, perhaps your Lordship might ask Lord Keith that question. I am solicitous that your Lordship may not think me forgetful of so necessary an appointment as a good surgeon, and your Lordship may rest assured if it be your wish to delay on that head, that I shall not fail to accommodate you with an eligible person.

‘I take the liberty of offering most respectful compliments to Sir William and Lady Hamilton. I have the honour to be,’ &c.

709. A. L. S. from Mr. Matcham to the same. Dated March 25th, 1803. 1 page 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

‘I have sent a couple of drawings for Count Staremborg, but beg your inspection of them. I have conversed with different intelligent people who assure me of the practicability of my plan—I leave it to its chance—swim or sink.

‘Pray God we may have no war, if not, we hope it will not be long before we meet. My best respects attend Sir W<sup>m</sup> & Lady Hamilton, not forgetting my niece. My dear Lord, yours,’ &c.

710. A. L. S. from Lord Melville to the same. Dated Wimbledon, April 17th, 1803. 2 pages 4to. [P.]

‘I have received your Grace’s letter, together with one from Lady Hamilton herself. I had an opportunity of speaking with Mr Addington yesterday, agreeable to your and her wishes; but I had no occasion to press any thing with importunity, as he seems fully possessed of the circumstances of the case, and disposed to give a favourable attention to them.\* I need not trouble Lady Hamilton with a separate letter, as your Grace will communicate to her the contents of this, and I remain, my dear Lord,’ &c.

‘I will take an opportunity soon of calling on Lady Hamilton.’

711. A. L. S. from Mrs. Matcham to the same. Dated ‘Sunday’ (April 23rd, 1803). 1 page 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

‘I could not inclose an answer to Lady Hamilton’s very kind letter without telling you that I have no hope of seeing you at present, for George is now ill with the measles, & I expect to have all the children with the same disorder.

‘I have only time to add our most affect<sup>te</sup> wishes, & I trust we may hope to have you in England. Believe me,’ &c.

712. A. L. S. from Lord Nelson to Lady Hamilton. Dated ‘Kingston,  $\frac{1}{4}$  before 6’ (May 16th, 1803). 1 page 8vo., with Superscription. [P.]

‘Cheer up, my dearest Emma, and be assured that I ever have been, and am, and ever will be, your most faithful and affectionate Nelson & Bronté.’

713. A. L. S. from the same to the same. Dated *Victory*, noon, May 20th, 1803. 1 page 4to. [P.]

‘You will believe that although I am glad to leave that horrid place, Portsmouth, yet the being afloat makes me now feel that we do not tread the

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\* Sir William died April 3rd.

same element. I feel from my soul that God is good, and in His due wisdom will unite us, only when you look upon [our dear child \*call] to your remembrance all you think that I would say was I present, and be assured that I am thinking of you every moment. My heart is full to bursting! May God Almighty bless & protect you, is the fervent prayer of, my dear beloved Emma, your most faithful, affectionate, &c.

714. A. L. S. from Miss Bolton to the same. Dated Bradenham, May 20th (1803). 2 pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'Knowing your anxiety about my dear mother, I would not let another day pass without writing, though I am grieved to say I cannot give you so good an account as I did in my last. My poor mother is weaker, &, therefore, worse than she was. Could you but see her, I am sure you would be shocked. We do not see the dreadful change so much as those who are not so often with her. Oh! my dear lady, she is, I fear, too good to suffer long. I say fear, for what child would not wish to have her on any terms. You know her patience, but in this illness she shows it more than ever. She was pleased to hear I had heard from you, & desired me to give her love to you, & to tell you that she feared she should never be well enough to pay you a visit, though she hoped she should be able to see you here again. I must beg of you to write often, as it seems to give her pleasure. I shall write on Tuesday again to you if there is not any particular change. To give you an idea of my poor mother's weakness, she is not able to walk from the bedside to her chair, but they are obliged to carry her. Her arms are not near so large as Horatia's, & I am certain the upper part of her leg, or rather her thigh, just above the knee, is *not so large* as the upper part of my arm. We have now only one thing in her favour, which is that her name was once Nelson, and she is certainly much like my grandfather.

'I suppose you have heard how ill my Aunt Rolfe has been & also my Aunt Goulty. The former travelled from Mr Rolfe's to Mr Taylor's in one day, though the week before her daughter did not think she would be able to quit Wotton.

'Kiss Horatia for me & for all the party, and pray write very soon to your,' &c.

715. A. L. S. from Charles Greville to the same. Dated May 22nd, 1803. 3 pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'I promised to call on you this morning, & I came to town (tho' very unwell) to make my visit satisfactory, which it could not be without previously knowing what is doing & can be expected at the Treasury, & also seeing Mr Booth. I have, therefore, only the power of writing you the result. There is no command of any money but from the funds, & I have expressly told Mr Booth that I will sell out, at whatever disadvantage it may be, to settle your business, but that I will not do so by dribblets, and it gave me much satisfaction to hear that you had told Mr Booth you would send all your bills to-morrow, & enable Mr Christie to dispose of the lease without delay. I have thus done all in my power to enable you to get your affairs settled, & I am so well aware of the comfort you will derive by Mr Booth's agency, & the impossibility of bringing the whole to a concise & early settling without his assistance, that I hope you will unite with me in doing what Mr Booth may think necessary to expedite the business, which, when the bills & lease are aranged & nothing but a meeting to provide the money which may be wanted for the arrangement which will be the result of Mr Booth's agency, & this will only require one meeting of all the parties to conclude it. If you accompany the bills you send to Mr Booth with a line to Mr Christie to desire him to give dispatch it will make the time of that meeting as early as possible. I really hope you will not impute my not coming to any but the real motive—my not being well enough to come out early, & my not having seen Mr Booth, &c., untill he return'd from you. I am,' &c.

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\* These four words have been scored over, but can be deciphered.



716. A. L. S. (imperfect) from Lord Nelson to the same. No date (June, 1803). 2½ pages 4to. [P.]

‘ . . . to Mr. Pitt, therefore in appearances at least for Mr. Bolton, if not for bettering my income, I seem to stand well. I send you, my Emma, the copy of the paper which Marsh & Creed has, and a copy had better be left with Mrs. Cadogan, then Miss Reynolds can refer to it, and if you can think of anything else for them to pay to save you trouble I will order it. Coals, I see, I forgot, but as the bill is paid up it will not be necessary to pay it before Xmas., when I hope to be at home.

‘ My cabbin smells of paint, but I do not think I have suffered from it. I did not sleep much, although I was dreadfully tired, and all I hope for now is a fair wind. Believe me, my dear Emma, although the call of honour separates us, yet my heart is so entirely yours and with you, that I cannot be faint-hearted, carrying none with me. Kiss our dear god-child, and remember me to all our dear friends with you, and for ever and ever I am your faithful and affectionate,’ &c.

‘ P.S.—Hardy says the king was very inquisitive about our West India trip, and spoke very kindly of me. Col. Desboro’ sent for him to his brother’s to come to the lodge from his brother’s; all the courtiers spoke to him, and civilly, except Ld. Hawkesbury, who never said a word to him. You see what a jumble I have made in my hurry with two sheets of paper.’

717. A. L. S. from Mr. John Scott\* to the same. Dated ‘ *Amphion*, in Gibraltar Bay, June 3rd, 1803, 8 o’clock p.m.’ [P.]

‘ We have this moment anchored here, and I have the pleasure of acquainting your Ladyship that Lord Nelson is in excellent good health and spirits. We were hopeful when we left Spithead to have fallen in with Admiral Cornwallis† off Brest, and that he would have allowed the *Victory* to have gone on with us; but we were much disappointed at not finding the Commander-in-Chief, particularly as his Lordship considered it proper to leave the *Victory* to add to the *show* off Brest, and proceed in this ship. This change gave a good deal of trouble, besides the many inconveniences which must be submitted to before the *Victory* may join. His Lordship left his steward with *all* his stock, &c., a few trunks of linen excepted, on board that ship, so that until we get her we shall not be able to commence regular *housekeeping*; but I beg to assure your Ladyship, the moment that is the case, the most strict regard shall be paid to everything that concerns his Lordship’s interests. We only remain here a few hours, so that I shall not be able to give your Ladyship the news of the *Rock* till my next. His Lordship has been particularly anxious to get here, but I am happy to observe that his health has not been in any degree affected by it, nor has it brought on any internal complaint; I have the remedy ready in case it should be wanted, and have directed Gaetano to watch narrowly the least appearance of any indisposition. His Lordship’s life is so valuable and dear to his friends and country, that I trust Providence will ever guard and defend him from all danger; if the assistance of man can contribute to his happiness or avert any danger, I am sure his Lordship will be in the full possession of the former, and never in any risk of the latter, for every one about him appears more anxious than another for his welfare. I have the pleasure of seeing your Ladyship’s picture, it is hung up in the cabin; it is an excellent likeness, and one of the handsomest I ever saw. We have the honour every day of drinking a bumper to the health of the original, as our Guardian Angel, and I sincerely hope our wishes may contribute to that desirable end. I have many thanks to return your

\* Mr. John Scott was the public secretary of the Commander-in-Chief. He was killed at the battle of Trafalgar, being almost torn in two by a shot from the enemy before the action had fairly commenced.

† Admiral Sir William Cornwallis, 1744–1819, fourth son of Charles, 1st Earl Cornwallis. He entered the navy in 1755, was promoted Commander in 1762, was posted in 1765, and became Rear-Admiral in 1793. He is described as stout and portly, with a jovially red face, which procured for him among the seamen the nickname of ‘Billygotight.’

Ladyship for the kind and polite attention I had the honour to receive from you when in London, and to assure you that I shall ever think of it with grateful remembrance, and be particularly happy if it shall ever be in my power to shew your Ladyship how sensibly I feel your much-respected kindness. I hope Dr. Nelson and his good family are well; may I presume on your Ladyship's kindness to make offer of my best compliments when you write them. With every wish for your Ladyship's health and happiness, I have the honour to be, with great and due regard,' &c.

718. A. L. from Lord Nelson to the same. Dated 'June 10th (1803), 20 leagues east of Algiers.' 3 pages 4to., with Superscription and Seal. [P.]

'We left Gibraltar at three o'clock, June 4th. The next day we took a French brig from Cette, and a Dutch one from the same place. We have had foul winds, but by exertions are got so far on our voyage, and at present our wind is favourable, but with a nasty sea. The Admiral has had a severe cold, and a little feverish; I really believe from anxiety to get on his station. Mr. Elliot, if this wind continues, leaves us to-morrow, as he passes over to Sardinia, and we inside the island of Galeta, passing Tunis and Cape Bon. Gaetano will go in the *Maidstone*, and I hope return in her, but I think that very doubtful when he once gets with his wife and family. [I shall write to Mr. Gibbs to tell me about your things, and if I ever get hold of them I will send them home.]

'How this letter will get home I know not. It will be read by every post office from Naples to London. [Be assured, my dear Emma, of my most affectionate regard and esteem, & for all belonging to you.]

'The Ad<sup>l</sup> does not mean to stay at Malta more than twenty-four hours, for he is very anxious to get off Toulon. News I can tell you none, except from vessels spoke. We find that it was the *Jemappe*, seventy-four, passed the Straits a little before us; she was in a calm off Majorca the 31st of May, so that if we had proceeded direct in the *Victory* we should have had her to a certainty. This letter will probably find you returning from Hilborough, where my fancy tells me you are thinking of setting out for, it will amuse you by change of scene. [I pray Heaven preserve you & yours in health & happiness, & send us a happy meeting.] I have wrote Gibbs a long letter to know something about Bronté—this is a matter I am determined to settle as speedily as possible, for the Admiral says it is shameful the way it has been managed. I have also wrote about your things at Malta. You forgot, dear Emma, to give me the order, but I suppose they will believe me. [L<sup>d</sup> N. will send them home, but it is not for the value, which, please God, you can never want, but for the pleasure of getting your own things. I hope to hear that all your affairs are settled. All I beg is that for a few hundred pounds that you will not fret yourself. Let them do what they will, whether I live or die you will be better off than ever.]

'June 11th. Mr. Elliot just leaving us, but this letter I send to Gibbs to send by the post, therefore I cannot write all I wish; but when the Admiral gets off Toulon, he intends sending a vessel direct to England. Yours,' &c.

719. A. L. from the same to the same. Dated June 25th, off Capri (1803). 3 pages 4to., with Superscription and Seal. [P.]

'Close to Capri the view of Vesuvius calls so many circumstances to my mind, that it almost overpowers my feelings. I do not believe that I shall have any opportunity of sending this letter to Naples, and, if I did, Lord Nelson does not believe Mr. Elliot would have any opportunity of sending it safely to England, therefore I can tell you little more than here we are. We arrived at Malta June 15th, in the afternoon, and sailed Thursday, in the night, Lord Nelson being so very anxious to join the fleet off Toulon. Sir A. Ball is very well, but I think he looks melancholy. It was so hot, that I was glad to breathe the sea air again. I saw the Marquis Testafatte—I think that is the name—he inquired after you. What is going on in Italy I cannot tell you, and if I could, dare not by this



conveyance. The Admiral tells me that very soon he shall have a good & safe opportunity ; only therefore, [my dear Emma,] believe all the kind things I would say, and your fertile imagination cannot come up to them [for I am ever, and if possible more than ever, your faithful].

‘Charles is very well. The *Maidstone* is just in sight from Naples, where she went with Mr. Elliot. Reports say, by the *Maidstone*, that all at Naples have great confidence in Lord Nelson.

720. A. L. S. from Mr. John Scott to the same. Dated *Amphion*, off Toulon, July 8th, 1803. 3 pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

‘I had the honour of writing your Ladyship on the 3rd ultimo, and in order that I might not be too late, sealed up my letter just as we were going into Gibraltar Bay on that evening. His Lordship went on shore next morning at five o’clock, after breakfast, to examine the state of the yard, and pay his respects to the Governor. He returned about twelve, and after having finished his public despatches, we left the Rock at four in the afternoon. I had not an opportunity of getting on shore to see the beauties of that place, nor did I much desire it. War was considered there as inevitable, but they had no account of it till our arrival ; there was no news on the Rock. His Royal Highness the Duke of Kent had been some time gone previous to our arrival ; Sir Thomas Trigge, notwithstanding, continues to act under his Sign Manual, but is now and then obliged to suspend some of his orders (which, however well they may answer with Royalty to enforce them, are not perhaps so well calculated for another officer). His Royal Highness’s aides-de-camp consider his return as certain ; it is not, however, the public opinion that such a desirable event is likely to take place, and therefore they are endeavouring to reconcile themselves to the absence of that illustrious military character. I forgot to mention to your Ladyship that we captured a French merchant brig off Tangier, and carried her into Gibraltar ; she is supposed to be worth about 8000*l*. On the 5th ultimo we captured another French merchant brig and a Dutch ship, and sent them to Malta. On the 11th his Lordship sent the *Maidstone* to Naples with his Excellency Mr. Elliot, who is really a pleasant, well-informed man. Gaetano went with him to see his wife, and was in very high spirits on the occasion. What a remarkable proof of his Lordship’s goodness of heart to part with a man, even for a short time, so essentially necessary to his comfort as a servant. We did not get to Malta till the 15th, about four in the afternoon. Sir Richard Bickerton had left that place on the 18th of May, in consequence of the enemy’s movements, and was informed of the war on the 4th of June by the *Niger*, from Naples, the French Minister at that Court having received the official account of it some days previous to that, and long before it was known through any other channel. It was not known at Malta till we went there. We left that place on the 17th ultimo, early in the morning. It is certainly one of the best fortified towns in the world, and is worth every sacrifice we have made to possess ourselves of it. I hope we shall never give it up ; its local advantages to England are incalculable, although the possessing it may cost a considerable sum. We got off Naples on the 20th of June, and were joined by the *Maidstone*, who brought Gaetano back ; this is a wonderful proof of his attachment, and really more than I expected. William did his best in the interval, though I fear was very deficient in many instances. We are now on our way to Toulon, where I hope we may soon arrive, and find the *Victory* before us, for although Captain Hardy’s kind attention cannot be excelled, yet the comfort of a large ship in this climate is so desirable that we are all wonderfully anxious to fall in with her and get settled. His Lordship, I have the pleasure to tell your Ladyship, is quite well, and in excellent health ; he has been very anxious (and no wonder, when it is considered how necessary his presence is off Toulon) to join Sir Richard Bickerton. I have heard much of Lord Nelson’s abilities as an officer and statesman, but the account of the latter is infinitely short. In my travels through the service I have met with no character in any degree equal to his Lordship ; his penetration is quick, judgment clear, wisdom great, and his decisions correct and decided : nor does he in company appear to bear any weight on his mind, so cheerful and pleasant, that it

is a happiness to be about his hand ; in fact, he is a great and wonderful character, and very glad and happy shall I be if, in the discharge of my duty, private and public, I have the good fortune to meet his Lordship's approbation. With every wish for your Ladyship's health and happiness, I have the honour to remain, with great regard,' &c.

'P.S.—We arrived off here yesterday forenoon, and this morning, 8th of July, fell in with Sir Richard Bickerton and his squadron. We hear the *Victory* is in this country. I hope in fourteen days she will be with us.'

721. A. L. S. from Captain Langford to the same. Dated 'H. M. S. *Fury*, Downes, July 17th, 1803.' 3 pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'Your kind mention of me to my family, believe me, is very flattering to me, and has made me both proud and grateful. I trust you will do me the justice to suppose I should lose no opportunity in assuring you of my respects, as well as informing you the moment I have any intimation of following our noble Admiral to the Mediterranean—for this, you may judge, I am extremely anxious. But I judge Lord St. Vincent, in his great goodness, does not think the *Fury's* services absolutely necessary in that quarter. After having so long followed the fortunes of our noble friend, I confess I do not feel a relish for serving under any other. I intend writing to Lord St. Vincent, on the subject, and any service you can be to me on the part of Lord Nelson in *this* case, I shall ever acknowledge with much gratitude. I am grieved to find Sir William Bolton is still unemployed ; I had expected, from the Earl's *promises*, he would immediately on the *war* have been called on.

'I am sure he must be happy in *governing* his *present* command. I have not been as yet very successful ; in fact, the station I am on (which is the Downes) does not admit of it, being too far to the eastward to get prizes. I have had a *brush* with our friends the *Boulognese*—but no mischief done. My protégée is doing very well. I am much obliged to you for your good intentions towards him.

'I hope you found the great County of *Norfolk* agreeable. I am no friend to it. Pray assure every body under your roof of my respects, and believe me ever,' &c.

722. A. L. S. from Sir Alexander Ball to the same. Dated Malta, July 23rd, 1803. 3¼ pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'I was happy to hear from our most worthy Nelson that you were in good health, and supporting with as much fortitude as possible the greatest loss which could happen to you, but which you must have foreseen, and, knowing it to be unavoidable, your mind would be gradually preparing for the awful event. I hope that you will now be many years without meeting any misfortune to interrupt your peace of mind.

'I have great satisfaction in acquainting you that Lord Nelson never looked in better health than when here. He will, I trust, return soon to his favourite spot with additional honours and wealth. If you should have any person coming here to whom I can be of use, pray command me, and consider me among your zealous friends. I have had a great deal of plague with the Foreign Ministers here. I found the Prince of Pantellaria disaffected to his Sicilian Majesty's Ministers, and very unfriendly to the English ; he seemed devoted to the French.

'My family enjoy good health here. My son is grown very much, and desires to be respectfully remembered to you. Adieu, my dear Lady Hamilton. Believe me, with every wish, your obliged and affectionate friend,' &c.

723. A. L. S. from Mrs. Matcham to Mrs. Bolton. No date (July, 1803?). 2¼ pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'I should have wrote you long since, but we have been so engaged in this purchase (of which you will hear from Mr Oliver all the particulars that we at present know) that my head has been quite full. We have done it for the best ; I hope it will succeed, & I flatter myself with the hope that we shall have it in our



power to see our friends in this country as often as we *do now*, which God knows is very seldom. Perhaps you can contrive to come for a week before you return home ; at present we cannot leave home—we have a large family to leave, & the little one is now under inoculation. I should like you to see them all ; do contrive to come. I have sent you a ring of our dear father's hair, which I am sure will be a valuable present. I feel his loss every day ; I *think more than ever* it is a blank never to be *filled* up. Our mother's hair also is set with it. When you write into Norfolk, remember me kindly to M<sup>r</sup> Bolton & to y<sup>r</sup> daughters. Poor Kate ! I am so sorry for her. I wish she would come to see me. I have this moment heard that my dear brother has gained his lawsuit against the Earl. What a comfort it is to *us* that there is a providence that *rewards the just*. Give my love to my lady, & tell her I cannot express my joy. God grant our dear brother may return to enjoy all the blessings that *we* can wish him. With our united best wishes to all. Yours,' &c.

724. A. L. S. from Mrs. Bolton to Lady Hamilton. Dated July 28th, 1803. 2 $\frac{3}{4}$  pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'I am sorry to find by your letter you still continue so indifferent, but *dispatches* & sea breezes will surely restore you. We are all under great obligations to you for the exertions you have made for Sir W<sup>m</sup> Bolton, & am happy to say it has had the desired effect, for this morning we have had a letter from him saying he had just got his commission for the *Childers* sloop, 14 guns. We have now only to hope he will be sent out to my Lord, & all will do well. I am sorry to say we have just received a letter from Miss Langton, saying there is to be no ball at Swafham, or even a dinner. M<sup>r</sup> Hoste, who was steward, is ill & cannot attend, so there, I think, is an end of the commemoration of the first of *August*. Poor spirited creatures ! they do not deserve to boast having such a hero being born in their *county*. Eliza & Anne go this evening to Edmondton, & Tom\* is off to-morrow by six o'clock in the morning for Norwich—this is not the happiest day of their lives. Miss Conner is well, & desires her kindest love to you, & shall be happy to hear from you. Both she & Susanna are much obliged to you for what you have ordered ; hope this will be in time to prevent them being sent. God bless you is the joint prayer of this family. I am,' &c.

725. A. L. S. from the Abbé Campbell † to the same. No date (August 1st, 1803). 2 pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'I received both your kind letters this morning with the enclosed for Miss Young, which I delivered, but all I could do could not persuade the father to let her go. I saw Oliver, who told me he had seen, this morning, M<sup>r</sup> Nepean, but no news from our dear Lord. Horace sets out for you to-morrow morning. I regret infinitely to foresee, for reasons I'll mention to you in my next, that I'll be prevented from joining you and your jovial party on Monday ; it grieves me much. The news of the day, S<sup>te</sup> Lucie is taken without any resistance ; we took there two ships of the line ; the letters from Ireland of this day state that all is quiet. God bless you ! With my respects to your agreeable society. I remain,' &c.

726. A. L. S. from Mrs. Matcham to the same. Dated 'Tuesday Morning' (August 16th, 1803). 2 pages 4to., with Superscription and Seal. [P.]

'I cannot express how much obliged to you I am for your very friendly offer,

\* Thomas Bolton, afterwards 2nd Earl Nelson, 1786–1835. He only enjoyed the title for nine months.

† Henry, the Abbé Campbell, *circa* 1752–1830, a well-known character in the Neapolitan society of his time. He was an Irishman by birth, and at an early age was attached as chaplain to the Neapolitan Ambassador in London. It is said that it was he who performed the marriage ceremony between Mrs. Fitzherbert and the Prince of Wales. The Abbé was at Naples during Sir William Hamilton's tenure of office, and was very intimate both with the Hamiltons and with Nelson.

of our living with you for a time at Merton, & be assured I should feel great happiness in accepting it, if our family was not so numerous, but with eight children I could not think of incumbering any friend's house. *You* being at Merton will be a great inducement to us to persevere in our endeavours to get a place near that country to stay. We are going to make a second attempt, & dine at M<sup>rs</sup> Ryley's. I must again repeat how happy it will make me if we are *successful*, but I almost despair at present. M<sup>r</sup> Matcham still talks of going abroad for a short time. I shall expect you in Sep<sup>r</sup>, at all events, but let me hear from you soon. We shall stay here about a week longer. Many thanks to M<sup>rs</sup> Voller for all her kind offers. We are at present rather unsettled, *outcast* mortals, but I look forward to happier times. With our best love & kind remembrances to all your party. Believe me,' &c.

'George begs I will not forget to remember him to you & his cousins. He is not forgetful of y<sup>r</sup> kind attentions to him.'

727. A. L. S. from Sir William Bolton to the same. Dated H. M. S. *Childers*, Plymouth, September 2nd (1803). 1½ pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'I have received your kind note, containing an enclosed letter for the most excellent man. As there is nothing arrived at Plymouth yet for his Lordship, I imagine you found a better conveyance by the *Colossus* or some other ship. I believe I mentioned to your Ladyship in a former letter, that I had written to M<sup>r</sup> Davison to know if any parcels, &c., were to be sent by me. I have just heard from my friend Frederic Langford, and he begs I would present his respects to your Ladyship. He is very anxious, also, to get with my noble patron, & relies entirely on your friendly aid. I feel much flattered by your Ladyship's friendly note, it shall be a memento of your goodness to me. I will trouble you with comp<sup>ts</sup> to M<sup>rs</sup> & Miss Nelson, & the Doctor, and subscribe myself yours,' &c.

'I am in hourly expectation of sailing, only waiting the arrival of the dispatches.

'The wind is fair.'

728. A. L. S. from Rev. C. Este to the same. Dated George's Row, Hyde Park, London, September 7th, 1803. 3 pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'I cannot help writing to you, my dear good Lady, tho' I am very far from fit, for I am in the way to lose, I fear, all fitness for good humour, or, at least, for reasonable good spirits.

'From what you kindly said in your *last* letter (which was soon after I was at South End), "that something" would be going out very, very soon, and that you would "write on the Sunday following," I had got into a little hope. It now is no more, for I have not heard from you since, and probably you know by this time what has happened about the *Childers*. On Saturday, August 27, I heard of its going. I went as soon as I heard (which was in the evening) to the Admiralty, to find the lieutenant, who was in waiting to carry the orders, &c., for Sir W. B. at Plymouth. That evening the clerks had left the office. The next morning (August 28) I flew there again. Meeting Sir. T. Trowbridge he took me up, very courteously, to his room. I told him my purpose, and that I thought of going next morning, or that night, when I was sadly shocked to hear the orders, &c., had been dispatched the night before, and that I was too late. This day I am shocked yet more by the ship news from Plymouth. It is as follows:—*Plymouth, September 4*.—Went down from Hamoaze, the *Childers*, Capt. Sir W. Bolton. So, had I gone on the Monday morning (Aug. 29) as I purposed, I should have been with him four whole days before he sailed. Now, what can be worse than this? and yet, upon an other point, I could tell you of an other mishap which, if I had so gone, I might never have known. But it need not run over, & it is too full already for a letter like this. Adieu, dear madam. May God for ever bless you as you so well deserve. When you write, pray remember me to our dear Lord, & let me live in his esteem. There is not a man alive whom I



can hold higher in honor & in my heart. Again, most excellent, dear Lady, most afft<sup>ly</sup> adieu. Yours,' &c.

'By-the-bye, I should have mentioned to you that my first accidental intelligence about the *Childers* was from the Tunis Consul, Mr Magra (is that right spelt?), whom you may recollect at Palermo. I met him at dinner twice or thrice & like him much. Lord Cathcart goes Commander-in-Chief to Ireland. There is a talk of the English in France, &c., being released, and I do know one or two men who think negotiations are advancing.

'Finally, pray how long will you stay at South End, and where afterwards?'

729. A. L. S. from Mr. Tyson to the same. Dated Woolwich Yard, September 12th, 1803. · 2 pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'A ship sailing from here for the Mediterranean with stores for the fleet will no doubt proceed there immediately; if you have any letters or any other thing to send, and will address it to me, I will have it put on board. The Master of her, you know (Duncan, that had the *Serapis* at Palermo), is a carefull man, and will convey any thing you send to his Lordship. We spent a very pleasant day with Mrs. Cadogan yesterday fortnight, and I then took the liberty of mentioning to her I thought it would be highly gratifying to his Lordship to have some butter sent to him, and proposed it to Mrs. Cadogan at that time, but she found she could not get it ready in time. The *Hindostan* is also loading here for the Mediterranean, and will sail in three weeks, which will afford your Ladyship another opportunity of sending out any thing you please. Should you have any thing to send, I will speak to Captain Le Grose\* to take it. I hope your Ladyship has received much benefit from your bathing and sea air, as well as Mrs. Nelson, to whom I beg my compliments, joined by Mrs. Tyson, and if I can render your Ladyship any service, I beg you will command me, being, with the greatest esteem your,' &c.

730. A. L. S. from Lord Nelson to the same. Dated September 19th, 1803. 1 page 8vo. [P.]

'I write, my dearest Emma, the letter sent herewith, in order that you send it to Mr. Vansittart. Ever yours most faithfully,' &c.

'As this ship goes by Malta, I do not write a line by her unless she should pick them up at Gib<sup>r</sup>, for I have not a small vessel belonging to me.'

731. A. L. S. from the Rev. C. Este to Lord Nelson. Dated George's Row, Hyde Park, September 28th, 1803. 3 pages 4to. [P.]

'I am importuned, in a manner I cannot well resist, to mention to you a young gentleman who is going to the Mediterranean. His name is Stevenson; he has served, I think, some 4 years with Cap<sup>t</sup> Western in the *Tamer*, & is now a midshipman with Cap<sup>t</sup> Strechey in the *Jalouse*. I do not know him, but he is recommended to me by two of my friends, on whose honour & discretion I must rely. But, indeed, I do conceive favourably of him, from what I hear of his exultation in thus going under your command, where he cannot but profit under the best example, and, should fortune befriend him, where he may aspire to approbation such as yours. May God Almighty for ever bless you, my most dear & all honor'd Lord, with happiness & with renown, still increasing according as you may wish—nay, if possible, ever according as you must be so deserving. Again & again, Sir, most affectionately adieu,' &c.

732. A. L. S. from Alexander Davison to Lady Hamilton. No date (October, 1803). 2 pages 4to. [P.]

'I have (4 o'clock) this moment received from the Admiralty two letters from our dearest friend, off Toulon, on the 17th Aug<sup>t</sup>. He seems, at the time of

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\* Captain Le Gros commanded the store-ship *Hindostan*, which was burnt in the Bay of Rosas in 1804. He was tried by court-martial, but was honourably acquitted.

writing, to have been rather a little low, tho' otherwise very well. He was, I firmly believe, longing after Merton and its guests. He had not received a line from me for a length of time. I am quite vexed about it, tho' I cannot help it now. The enclosed to you came under cover of his letter to me. He talks much of coming home, yet I think, on receiving the despatches that sailed some time ago, he will think it right to remain, at least a few months longer. I doubt not of your having kept the 29th of last month as you could (in his absence) with pleasure. I kept it, too, here, and got half seas over. I have not heard from you since. I hope you received the wine safe.

'The devil is begun to the Boulogne flotilla; where it will end I cannot tell, but this I am sure of, that if the business be managed with judgement, every ship in the harbour there, as well as at Calais, will be sent to *Old Nick*. I am, in great haste,' &c.

733. A. L. S. from Lord Nelson to the same. Dated October 6th, 1803.

4 pages 4to. [P.]

['My dearest, beloved Emma, only believe that I should be far too happy to embrace my own dear Emma, but I see so many obstacles in the way of what would give us both such supreme felicity, that good sence is obliged to give way to what is right, and I verily believe that I am more likely to be happy with you at Merton than any other place, and that our meeting at Merton is more probable to happen sooner than any wild chase into the Mediterranean. I am ever for ever, with all my might, with all my strength, yours, only yours. My soul is God's, let him dispose of it as it seemeth fit to his infinite wisdom, my body is Emma's.]

'I have had a letter from Mr. George Moyston, who is at at Naples, and a very kind one. He has been to the Cataracts in Upper Egypt, through Syria, Palestine, Greece, &c., but has nearly died two or three times, and is now a prisoner on parole to the French, being in quarantine at Otranto when the French went there.

'I only beg, my dear Emma, that you will not give credit to any reports which will reach England of the battle—trust to providence that it will be propitious to your most sanguine wishes, and I hope that Captain Murray will be the bearer of a letter from me to you. Never fear, our cause is just and honourable. From Davison's letter of August 15th, I expect a ship of war every moment; it is now three months I see by the papers that Bolton has got the *Childers*. Had he been here he would have been Post. The Admiralty will send him out of course, and if I know how, I must try and put 5000*l.* in his pocket. Don't you laugh, how I talk of thousands when I do not know how, or rather have not tried, to put many in my own pocket, but they will come. I wish you would have the plan made for the new entrance at the corner. Mr. Linton should give up that field this winter, and in the spring it should be planted very thick to the eastward, and a moderate thickness to the north. The plan for filling up the water on the south and east sides of the house, but care must be taken that the house is not made damp for want of drains. A covered passage from *Downings* must be made beyond the present trees, and rails, and chains, in a line with it to keep carriages from the house. An opening can be left with a post, that foot passengers may go to the kitchen. This may be done even before you begin the room; it will amuse you, and be of no great expence. [I am ever for ever, my dear Emma, yours most faithfully & affectionately,' &c.

'Best regards to Mrs. Cadogan.']

734. A. L. (imperfect) from the same to the same. No date (end of 1803). 4 pages 4to. [P.]

. . . . 'perhaps it had better remain till next year. Mr. Haslewood will do what is right about Linton, and he must take care that I am not taxed for the house when it is quitted more than is necessary, and I should like to have that part which we propose to take in, including Linton's house, *paled* round, and to make a new pathway to the extent of, from the field on Halfhide's side our house round Linton's house (of course, it shuts up the present footpath through the



yard), and to cross just beyond the orchard, where the old footway will be as usual. There are contractors for park-paling, & if Mr. Newton and Mr. Leach are friendly we shall find no difficulty; but a good gravel pathway till it reaches the old must be made before we turn the one through the farmyard. I don't mean to pale immediately the whole premises, as I can't afford it. At Michaelmas you will be able to give up Mr. Bennett's premisses, and that will be a great expence saved, for after all, my dear Emma, we are not rich. I have wrote to Haslewood fully about the land; I look upon him not only as my surveyor, but my friend. If Mr. Matcham wants his 4000*l.* he had better take it now I have it, not that I have any fears of Buonaparte's taking it from me. He be damned, and so he will. Amen.

'Mr. M. can't take the money, it is trust; what a sad thing for poor old Unwin. I pity him most sincerely.

'You have sent me, in that lock of beautiful hair, a far richer present than any monarch in Europe could if he were so inclined. Your description of the dear angel makes me happy. I have sent to Mr. Falconet to buy me a watch, and told him if it does but tick, and the chain *full* of trinkets, that is all which is wanted. He is very civil, and Mrs. Falconet has sent word that she will do her best in chusing any thing I may want; I believe they are very good people. I had a letter from Mr. Warrington, but I did not chuse to have anything to say to them—we know her of old. Our friend Acton flatters as much as ever in time of danger; however, it is well to be looked up to, and if he was to quit Naples the kingdom is lost, and I almost fear it will if he stays. Buonaparte threatens that if he will not dismiss Acton, disarm his subjects, and get rid of English influence, that he would march another army to Naples. *The King*, with his own hand, has refused, and order'd *Gallo* to demand the withdrawing of the present French troops. Will Russia & the Emperor allow these good loyal sovereigns to be sacrificed?' . . .

735. A. L. S. from the same to Mr. Nathaniel Taylor. Dated October 7th, 1803. 1 page 4to.

'I have to return you many thanks for your kind present of porter, which I have accepted, although it is contrary to my established custom. Therefore, you will have the goodness to forgive my stating what my resolution is. But I assure you, dear sir, that I feel all your kindness on this occasion, as well as for the trouble you was so good as to take with my things in the *Foudroyant*. And I am, dear sir,' &c.

736. A. L. S. from Sir Joseph Banks to Charles Greville. Dated Revesby Abbey, October 11th, 1803. 2½ pages 4to., with Superscription. [H.]

'Thank you for your learned letter, which proves that you have made no small proficiency in the technics of astronomy. I conclude you do not regularly study the science, but, like the gardener in that of botany, content yourself with getting the hard names of things by heart.

'If it proves to be a popular thing to give the medal to Mudge,\* I shall readily concur in the measure. I have, however, my doubts whether this will prove to be the case, his maps have at different times so much varied from each other, & his letterpress, even in figures, been so often found inaccurate. But however he may be absolutely accurate in the real results of his observations, much fear is entertained whether the accounts he has given of them will bear the investigation of a geographer who is to make use of them. I grieve always when Dr Gray† consults me in the course of printing his papers, and points out to me errors

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\* Major-General William Mudge, 1762–1820, an officer of the Royal Artillery, who was employed on the trigonometrical survey of Great Britain. He was a Fellow of the Royal Society, and of the Antiquarian Society. The Royal Society's Copley Medal for 1803 was eventually given to Richard Chenevix.

† Edward Whitaker Gray, 1748–1807, a physician and naturalist, keeper of the department of natural history and antiquities at the British Museum, was for many years Secretary to the Royal Society.

which I should have conceived it impossible to commit, that a man who devotes himself so zealously to the business he has undertaken, and who, I believe, performs it in a most masterly manner, should be so negligent in his manner of recording it. More of this when we meet, & Gray will illustrate by examples what I have stated.

'Thank God I am tolerably well & have been so ever since I came here. We are all learning our exercise, and even the villagers whose services have not been accepted, continue to pose about their churchyards in military measure, and have indeed learned the use of their legs very tolerably. We are all, however, very stupidly collecting cash to be ready for Bonaparte's army. The gold long ago disappeared; the silver now follows it very fast. Lincoln Bank has for more than a week paid in Spanish dollars at 4s. 8d.

'Have you heard of the mud volcanoes in Trinidad? They are masses of mud which have been spewed out of the earth & which still continue to puff out water and mud from small spiracles on their sides & occasionally explode pebbles, gravel, & flyntes with a noise like the reports of cannon. They are about ten feet diameter, and one hundred high; the water they throw up is salt, & they are surrounded with mangroves and other vegetables which grow no where else but on the muddy edge of the sea. Adieu, my dear Greville. Believe me,' &c.

737. A. L. S. from Mrs. Bolton to Lady Hamilton. Dated Cranwich, December 4th (1803). 3 pages 4to., with Superscription.

'By this day's coach, Mr Bolton has sent you a hare & brace of pheasants. Have you had letters, or are you still in expectation of seeing my brother? You will hear from him some days before you see him, most likely. Is the Dr & Mrs Nelson with you? If they are, tell the Dr Mr Bolton has written two or three letters to Canterbury. Miss Langford has been staying with us two or three days. She is just as usual, full of chat. The Otleys are leaving Swaffham. A Collonel Sibthorpe is coming into his house, but whether a family or not is uncertain, & into General Lee's house a Col<sup>n</sup> Lovelace, a sporting gentleman. Lyndford is sold to a Mr Eyres, son-in-law to Sr Harry Parker,\* who is brother to Sr Hyde. Give my kind love to Mrs Cadogan, & thank her for her kindness to my girls, & do me the favour, likewise, to express my gratitude to Miss Connor for the trouble & attention she takes to teach my daughters. They, I hope, are very good, & mind all she says. They have, I hope, got their boxes from school. I have a frock of Eliza's which I shall send the first opportunity to town. Tom comes home next week; we had a letter from him to-day. I suppose you have one, as he says he is writing Lady Hamilton about apples or something. Charming weather for Merton; you will not be much in town, I dare say, whilst this weather lasts. I begin now to be very impatient to hear something of my Lord; you will, I know, write as soon as you hear. Mr Bolton & Susanna joins me in kind love & regards to all your party.'

738. A. L. S. from Sir Evan Nepean to Lord Nelson. Dated Admiralty Office, December 19th, 1803. 2 pages folio. [P.]

'Mahomed Elphi Bey, mentioned by your Lordship in your letter to me of the 8<sup>th</sup> of July, arrived at Spithead in the *Experiment* on the 3<sup>d</sup> October last, and although, under the particular circumstances in which he came to this country, he could not be received in any public character, or be presented at Court except by the Minister of the Porte, yet it has been thought right to pay him every mark of attention and respect during his residence here, and to send him to Egypt in the *Argo*, which ship has been fitted for his accommodation.

'I send your Lordship herewith a copy of the orders which have been given to Captain Hallowell, as also a copy of a secret letter to that officer; as it is their Lordship's intention to employ him on other service, it is their command that you permit him to return to England after he shall have carried the directions therein contained into execution. I have the honor to be,' &c.

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\* Sir Harry Parker, 1735-1812, the elder brother of Sir Hyde, succeeded as the 6th Baronet in 1783. His eldest daughter, Louisa Grace, married George Robert Eyres, of Lyndford Hall, Norfolk, and died his widow in 1858.



739. A. L. S. from Lord Carlisle to Charles Greville. Dated 'Dec. ? 29<sup>th</sup>' (1803 ?). 1½ pages 4to. [H.]

'Having got into an expensive scrape about a book, with engravings from drawings you saw & in part approved, by Westall, I mean it should be as complete as possible, to which end I wish to consult you about some *vignettes*, in which I should not be sorry to have introduced some thing relative to this place. From prints already published sufficient might be taken for such slight ornament, & there is a drawing in L<sup>y</sup> C.'s small dressing-room that would afford an idea of Raywood & the Mausoleum.

'If I could find a drawing of Naworth Castle, that might be an addition. I regret much that you was not here in the summer to have given me a sketch of the North part of the park with the new water, but this may in some measure, tho' perhaps a deficient one, be supplied, by making some of y<sup>r</sup> protégés take a copy of the picture in my dining-room, taken from above the quarry looking towards the house, & I flatter myself it would be giving you a small degree of trouble, if you would from memory cover the vale with water.

'I have only time to apologize for this liberty, & to express a hope we shall meet soon in London, where we shall be found before the birthday.'

740. Copy\* of Letter (in French) from the Queen of Naples to Lord Nelson. Dated January 2nd, 1804. 1½ pages 4to. [P.]

'Mon bien digne, cher, et respectable milord et amy,—J'ai reçus vos deux lettres. Pénétérée de la plus vive reconnoissance je vois dans chaque ligne votre âme grande attachée, et vous en suis profondément reconnoissante. J'aurois voulu avec le *Gibraltar* vous envoyer douze autres vaisseaux de votre brave nation, mais cette grande si éprouvée qualité dont vous animez tous les vôtres, n'a pas, comme elle l'a prouvé si souvent, besoin de nombre. Je ferai des vœux au ciel pour vos complet succès et bonheur. Nous sommes toujours dans une position bien pénible, mais qui moyennant l'amitié de votre souverain et gouvernement et vos soins, est pénible mais non dangeureuse. Recevez dans cette nouvelle année, mon cher et digne milord, les vœux que je fais pour votre parfait bonheur et consolation, ils sont liées au bonheur de l'Europe & de tout être bien pensant. Puisse les vœux qui je forme pour vous pleinement s'exécuter, et vos peines, soins être couronnée d'un plein succès. Tels sont les vœux que forme pour vous celle qui est et sera toute sa vie, avec la plus haute estime et sincère reconnoissance, votre bien attachée, vrai, sincère, &c.

'Mes enfans, fils et filles, me chargent de vous assurer de leur éternelle reconnoissance, estime, et attachement.'

741. A. Doc. S. 'E. G.' from Mr. Gayner. Dated January 13th, 1804. 1 page folio.

'When Lieut. Pryce of the Britt. *Fair* cutter was here, I received a message from a person who had undertaken to search for private information which Lord Nelson had requested me to procure; but as Lieut. Price was limited in his stay here, I could not furnish by him to Lord Nelson w<sup>th</sup> the result of my interview w<sup>ch</sup> I have since had with the person. Its object was to inform me that twelve thousand men, under the command of General Melas, were preparing at Toulon for a secret expedition. This information I do not consider merits the first confidence such as it might have deserved had a person brought it directly from Toulon; it was collected in conversation w<sup>th</sup> a person of consequence, & repeated casually by a person who holds a confidential post under the French Government in the neighbouring province.'†

742. A. L. S. from Lord Nelson to Lady Hamilton. Dated *Victory*, January 20th, 1804. 3 pages 4to.

'I send a very neat watch for our god-child, and you will see it is by a good

\* In the handwriting of Dr. Scott.

† The document is endorsed: 'Rec<sup>d</sup> from Mr. Gayner this morning.—J. Donnelly.'

maker, that is, I suppose it will *tick* for a year instead of a month or two. You will impress her that it is only to be worn when she behaves well and is obedient. I am very sorry that your comb is not arrived; the brig is at Malta, but I daresay it will arrive sometime, and you shall have it the first opportunity. I send you Mr. Falconet's letter. You will see how very civil both of them are. Mr. Elliot is a great Minister, but I doubt whether the Queen has much real friendship for him. *Acton* has him fast, but I believe that Mr. Elliot had rather that Acton and the King and the Queen looked to him for my services than applying to myself; but circumstanced as I have been and am with that Court Sir William Hamilton gave it up, and no other person shall deprive me of the immediate communication. No, my dear Emma, what I do for them shall be from myself, and not through him. They are in very great fears at this moment.

'I have been towards Algiers, where I sent a ship with Mr. Falcon, our Consul, who the Dey turned away; but the Dey has been made so insolent by Mr. North's conduct in giving him 30,000*l.*, that nothing I suppose but a flogging will put him in order, and with the French Fleet ready to put to sea that I have not time for. I have been, [my own Emma,] but very indifferent, a violent cold upon my breast. Asses' milk would have done me much service, but I am better, and I hope to continue so till the battle is over, then I hope my business here will be finished; that it may be soon is the sincere wish of, [my dearest Emma,] your [ever most faithful & affectionate,] &c.

['I send you the Queen's last letter.\* Dr. Scott, I fear, will not have time to copy the other. I am hard pressed for time, and am not very stout to-day.†']

743. A. L. S. from Mrs. Matcham to the same. Dated Wilbury House, January 31st, 1804. 3 pages 4to., with Superscription.

'My dear Lady Hamilton, I am fearful, will think I have been very remiss in not writing to her, but I have been waiting in hopes that before this I might have been able to give her some particulars of this new purchase, but we have received no letters from Hussam for two months. We are anxiously expecting to hear who is the possessor of the estates; the 11th of Jan<sup>ry</sup> was the day Mr. Harward was to have all the property given up to him and to be invested with all the rights in the name of Mr. Matcham. The moment we get letters with particulars you shall hear from me. I have not wrote to my dearest brother till I could tell him all particulars, as I thought he would hear the progress from you. I long much to know if you have had letters by these last despatches. God grant he may be well; I am always in a terror about him. I think I shall see you almost as often in Denmark as I do now, for with such a family it is impossible to move in this country, expenses are so great. We are now staying a few days with Sir Charles Malet, who has bought a very large estate upon Salisbury Plain. You will be surprised when I say it is well sheltered, and a great quantity of game. Mr. Matcham intends going to Krutzby as soon as the frost will allow him, for though we have so mild a season theirs never alter. He will have the pleasure of seeing you before he leaves England. I shall remain at Bath till his return, which, I hope, will be in a month, as he only goes over to see what is wanted; indeed, he will find it necessary to see the country before we all move. I hope you will let me hear from you soon, for it is a long time since I got any accounts of you. With my best love to Charlotte and whoever of the young people are with you, and best remembrances to Mrs. Cadogan. I remain, &c.

'We shall return home in a few days, therefore shall hope to get a letter at Bath.'

744. A. L. S. from Mrs. Bolton to the same. Dated 'Monday Evening' (February 3rd, 1804). 3½ pages 4to., with Superscription and Seal.

'You see I am impatient to hear from your Ladyship, therefore teize you with

\* See preceding page.

† The letter was printed in Mr. Morrison's *Catalogue*, First Series, vol. v., p. 17.



another of my stupid epistles. I suppose you have been engaged lately with your Fête on Miss Moseley's birthday. I hope you was well enough to enjoy it as you always do when you are promoting other people's amusement. The party are now all dispersed, the young party gone to school. I hope my girls are gratefull for all your kindness & attention to them; I am. Tom went to school last Friday; I went with him as far as Saham (?), & spent two days with Mr. Rolfe & his mother. I met Horace Dashwood there; he talks of the good dinners he got at Hillborou' with great glee. I have enlisted two gentlemen in your service: Mr. Rolfe & Mr. Dashwood have both promised to visit us often when you are here in April; you see it is never from my thoughts. I had a letter from Mrs. Matcham, they are staying for a few days at S<sup>r</sup> Charles Mallet's; she went there for her health. She assures me she is *not* in a family way, but relaxation, added to that rheumatism; in short, all her complaints proceed from debility, but she is better since she has changed the scene. Mr. Matcham means to go over to Denmark when the frost breaks. She seems perfectly satisfied with the idea of going. The gentleman who transacts their business has a daughter at Bath on a visit to a family a few doors from her, who, she says, is a charming young woman. If my sister goes in the course of the summer, she is to return with them, which will certainly be good for all parties. Mr. M. is geting forward in learning the German language. How do you go on? Kate is still very indifferent; she desires her kindest regards to you, and requests, as a favor, you will enclose this letter to my Lord when you send a packet. Are you thinking of going to Canterbury, or are the Nelsons coming to you? Kent is not the safest place in case of an invasion. My neighbour Edwards sits at home and frightens himself so much that he will not suffer any of his children to go to school. Mr. Caldwick has brought home his bride, a very nice woman, but not handsome. Mr. Bolton joins with me in kindest love to you, Charlie, & Miss Conner. Believe me at all times yours, &c.

745. A. L. S. from Rev. C. Este to Lord Nelson. Dated February 3rd, 1804. 1 $\frac{3}{4}$  pages 4to.

'I cannot help troubling you with a line or two, for a beloved son of mine, who once dined with you at Merton, is again going through the Mediterranean to Egypt. When there before he was one of the Surgeons to the Guards. Now he goes with the mission of Mr. Locke as the Secretary and Physician. In the strange vicissitudes of time and chance it may so happen that he may come into your notice and correspondence; if it should be so, my dear Lord, I will answer for his manly conduct and unoffending manners, for the faithfulness and good affections of his heart.

'Adieu, adieu, Sir, the time and my spirits fail me to say more than that the order for going to Portsmouth came with cruel abruptness but a few hours ago, and that my Lady, the most noble creature living, has been writing for us ever since. With kind emotions more than I can utter, and with esteem and admiration too, my most dear Lord, again and again, very tenderly adieu,' &c.

746. A. L. S. from Mrs. Matcham to Lady Hamilton. 2 pages 4to., with Superscription.

'I wrote you from Wiltshire last week, to say that we thought it a long time since we have heard from you. I hope illness has not been the occasion of your long silence, as I see there has been despatches from my dear brother. I hope you have good accounts. On our return home we rec<sup>d</sup> a letter from Husam, with a proposal from Mr. Harward to take the large estate off our hands, which I believe Mr. Matcham has determined to part with upon eligible terms, as he has always been under alarm on account of the magnitude of the purchase, which would oblige us to live on the spot whether it was agreeable to us or not. He still intends to go over as soon as the frost will allow him to settle this business, & if he likes the country to hire a small place for a short time, as he is offered a small estate, which, *you* know, was his first & only idea of having a small property in another country.

'With our best wishes and love to all, I remain,' &c.

747. A. L. from Lord Nelson to the same. Dated February 25th, 1804.

1½ pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

‘As Lord Nelson tells me that it is very probable this letter may not only be read, but never arrive to your hands, I only write this line to say, here we are, and have for the whole of this month experienced such a series of bad weather, that I have seldom seen the like. I am anxious in the extreme to hear that you are perfectly recovered from your late indisposition. Lord Nelson has heard very lately from Naples. The French army is prepared for service, and have a month’s bread baked in readiness ; an embargo is laid at Genoa and Leghorn, and all the vessels seized as transports, so that we must have some work very soon. I only hope to keep my health till the battle is over, but my spasms have been very bad lately. We saw the French fleet very safe on the 22nd, at evening. Lord Nelson rather expects the ships from Ferrol in the Mediterranean. With my kindest love and affection to all I hold dear, believe me for ever, my dearest Emma, your most faithful and attach’d. This goes by Spain.’

748. A. L. S. from Mr. George Rose\* to the same. Dated March 9th, 1804. 2 pages 4to. [H.]

‘In proposing to you to write the inclosed letter to Mr. Addington, I entreat I may not raise a hope in your mind that your doing so will be likely to produce any good to you ; I have in conformity with the principles to which I have invariably adhered, been anxious from the first mention of your case to me, to prevent your forming an expectation of success from any application you might make to the Minister, lest I should in the remotest possible degree contribute to add disappointment to misfortune : but I think in your situation the attempt (however hopeless) is worth making. You will at least be put to a certainty, for I am persuaded if it does not succeed now it never will ; and this sort of application will, I think, afford you as good a chance of success as any you can have ; I sincerely and most heartily wish you had a better than I can venture to hope for.

‘If you can prevail with either the Peer or the Knight you mentioned to me, to put your letter into Mr. Addington’s hand, or to inclose it to him, I should strongly recommend your doing so, shewing them first the contents of it, but on no account mention my name, or allude to me, as I am quite sure that would not be useful to you. And when you have copied the letter to Mr. Addington, I must beg you will burn it.

‘In the event of anything wanting explanation, I will have the honour of waiting on you any morning you please between eleven and twelve o’clock, or a little later, if that shall suit you better. I am,’ &c.

749. A. L. S. from Lord Nelson to the same. No date (March, 1804).

3 pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

‘I take my chance of a letter I wrote you yesterday going safe thro’ Spain, to say I rec<sup>d</sup> last night your two letters of Jan<sup>ry</sup> 15th and 28th, with respect to the lady, *my* friend at Gib<sup>r</sup>. I cannot barely guess what you mean, unless M<sup>r</sup> Cutforth is a married man, which I do not know is the case. I never saw him but once, and that was on board the *Amphion*. He is agent victualler. I never saw his house, but his character is excellent. Not all this world’s goods or charms could shake my love and affection from my own dearest Emma ; that, Horatia’s being so ill and you so much indisposed, gave me a raging fever all night. I shall write in a few days by Gib<sup>r</sup>, but I would not miss the trial of friend Quaker Gayner. I am sure the French would have been at sea long ago but for the commotions in

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\* The Rt Hon. George Rose, 1744–1818, a statesman and political writer, Secretary of the Treasury from 1782 to 1801 ; in 1804 appointed Joint Paymaster-General of the Forces, and Vice-President of the Board of Trade. His various letters to Lady Hamilton, and hers to him, are printed in his *Diaries and Correspondence*.



France. They are perfectly ready, and seemingly full manned, and so are we ready to meet them.

‘Remember me kindly to the Duke of Hamilton, I respect him very much indeed, and to the good old Duke of Q<sup>y</sup> say what you please. I care not for all those nonsensical letters of M<sup>r</sup> Monckton or *your* titled offers. I have confidence in your love and affection, and so ought you in the fidelity, love, and affection, of ever yours,’ &c.

‘P. S.—Kiss dear Horatia for me, and the other. I approved of the name you intended. Best regards to Davison, I shall write by Gib<sup>r</sup> to him. *What changes!*

750. A. L. S. from the same to the same. No date (March 18th, 1804). 3½ pages 4to. [P.]

‘We have been expecting the French fleet at sea to relieve me from some anxiety, but many think (but I do not) that the Spanish fleet is to join them; but let us meet them in any reasonable numbers, and you shall, my dear Emma, have no reason to be ashamed of your own Nelson. I send you the comb, which looks handsome, and a pair of curious gloves, they are made only in Sardinia of the beards of mussels. I have ordered a muff; they tell me they are very scarce, and for that reason I wish you to have them. I must write a line to M<sup>rs</sup> Denis, but, in truth, say, although I am much obliged by her kind letter and good wishes, that I can do nothing more, and barely that, to acknowledge the receipt. I do not think I can answer my brother by this opportunity, I will write him soon.

‘Remember me most kindly to the Duke of Queensbury, I love the old man and would give up everything but you to him; and to all our *joint* friends, for I can have none separate from being yours, say everything that is kind. Never mind Mr. Addington, if he does not do what is right the more shame for him. Thank God I have both the power and inclination. I shall not close this till the last. The destination of the enemy has as many opinions as there are countrys. Sir Alex<sup>r</sup> Ball is sure they are bound again to Egypt—time will shew. I send you, my beloved Emma, a note, in order that you may, upon your birthday, make some little presents, and if you do not give it all away it will look in bank notes very pretty in your pocket-book. Kiss dear Horatia for me, and the other. Call him what you please, if a girl, Emma. Kindest regards to your good mother, affection to Charlotte and all our friends. It now blows a gale of wind.

‘*March 19th.*—The gale seems abating, and I shall get off the vessel for Gibraltar. I have been very restless, my dearest Emma, for these several days & nights, and shall not be better till I hear you are quite recover’d. I am yours for ever and ever,’ &c.

‘P.S.—Hardy is well, and desires his best respects.’

751. A. L. (incomplete) from the same to the same. No date (March, 1804). 1 page 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

. . . . ‘I don’t write more, as it is very uncertain how we stand with Spain; we have odd reports of M<sup>r</sup> Frere\* and the Prince of Peace.† People are so fond of writing that you may hear I have not been very well, but I am quite recovered; it was a kind of rheumatic fever in my head. I wish the French would come out and let us settle our matters. I should then certainly ask to go home, for rest I

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\* John Hookham Frere, 1769–1846, a diplomatist and author. In 1799 he succeeded his friend Canning as Under-Secretary of State in the Foreign Office, in 1800 was sent as Envoy-Extraordinary to Lisbon, whence he was transferred in 1802 to Madrid, where he remained until August, 1804, when he was recalled in consequence of circumstances which made it impossible for him to have any communication with the Prince of Peace. In 1807 he was sent to Berlin, in 1808 to Spain, with which mission his diplomatic career ended. In 1818 he took up his permanent residence at Malta and died there. Several of his literary productions were privately printed and have become very rare.

† Don Manoel Godoi, Prince de la Paz, 1767–1851, a noted Spanish courtier who played a great part in the events of his time; the favourite of Charles IV., whose cousin he married. He followed his royal master into exile to Rome, and after his death retired to Paris, where he died. He had a pension from Louis Philippe.

must have. Ever for ever, yours faithfully. Remember me most kindly to all friends ; dear mother, Ad<sup>l</sup> & M<sup>rs</sup> L., Charlotte, Miss Connor, &c. &c. &c. God in Heaven bless you. Amen. Amen.'

752. A. L. S. from Mrs. Bolton to the same. Dated 'Cranwick, Sunday Evening' (March 18th, 1804). 3 pages 4to., with Superscription and Seal. [P.]

'I was in hopes, my dear Lady Hamilton, to have announced to you the arrival of our little stranger, but no such thing. Poor Kate seems worn out with expectation. Our neighbour, Mrs. Partridge, has been confined this fortnight ; she expected not so soon as Lady Bolton. According to this, she certainly was not in a family way till after she came into Norfolk. Mr. Bolton flattered me by saying, when he came down, that you said you would write to me in a day or two, but you have chided that vanity by not writing since. That is the only reason I have not written to you ; not that I had anything particularly to say to you, but to reassure you of my affection and obligation, & indeed particularly for your very bountiful present of coffee. I hope the time draws near when I shall have the pleasure of seeing you here to partake of it. Susanna was at Ely last Wednesday. Mrs. Dashwood was delighted with the hopes of seeing you in Norfolk. She told Mrs. W<sup>m</sup> Bolton you enlivened the country so much by your presence, that it seemed a blank when you left it. Mr. Bolton is gone to Wales on business, but I rather expect him home to-day. I wish to answer my brother's letter, but I still more wish to see you & consult with you upon my answer, as he wishes Mr. Bolton to say what situation he looks to, that he may be prepared if opportunity should offer. All this and much more shall we have to talk of when we have the happiness of meeting at Cranwick. We have had delightful weather this last week ; you must have found town rather warm ; or perhaps you are now at Canterbury? We have not seen or heard any things of the Yonges since their return. Mrs. Bolton, with my daughters, joins in kindest regards to you and love to Miss Connor and Charlotte. Believe me.'

753. A. L. S. from Lord Nelson to Dr. Baird. Dated March 19th, 1804. 1  $\frac{3}{4}$  pages 4to.

'Many thanks for your kind letter of Oct. 30th. I am sure no man is more able to place our hospitals in proper state than yourself, and that you always bear in mind not to be penny wise and pound foolish. A small sum, well laid out, will keep fleets healthy, but it requires large sums to make a sickly fleet healthy, besides the immense loss of personal services ; health cannot be dearly bought at any price if the fleet is never sickly.

'By general exertions we have done well, but we have not a place that we can be sure of supplies from. Spain will not give us a live animal, Naples dare not, and Sardinia ought not, but that is the only place we have a chance for fresh provisions. God knows how many days, it will not be many, that island is out of the hands of the French. I hope to hold out still after the battle, but, as you know, mine is a wretched constitution, and my sight is getting very, very bad. I rejoice to hear the Earl is so well.'

754. A. L. S. from Mrs. Matcham to Lady Hamilton. Dated 'Sunday morning' (March 25th, 1804). 1 page 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'A thousand [thanks], my dear Lady Hamilton, for your letter, which I have this moment rec<sup>d</sup>. May God Almighty spare our dear friend to us ! We must rely upon a kind and merciful providence, that has hitherto watched over him in the day of battle. This is an awful and trying period to us all. We think of being in town in a few days. Can you get us two bedrooms near you & a sitting-room? You shall hear when we leave Bath. God bless you all, & with the hope we shall meet soon I remain yours,' &c.



755. A. L. S. from Mr. Falconet to Lord Nelson. Dated Naples, April 1st, 1804. 3 pages 4to. [P.]

'I am honoured with your Lordship's letter, 18 March. Mr Gibbs had within a few days sent me an extract of your Lordship's order for 2 or 3 pieces armorino, which is repeated in your Lordship's letter, but without mentioning either colour or quantity. A piece of armorino runs from 21 or 30 canes, but having consulted with Mrs Falconet, she thought 12 canes, equal to 28 yards, w<sup>d</sup> be a proper quantity, as the Eng<sup>h</sup> piece runs about 26 yards, & that 12 canes makes 3 full gowns, the armorino being 4 palms or ell-wide. We chose three very neat patterns, & also six shawls, which are much superior to the former ones, which I am glad to find Lady Hamilton aproves. I have enclosed the whole in a case to your Lordship, which will be delivered with this letter by Cap. Hanwood of the *Bellisle*, the box is sealed as this letter.

'The enclosed letter from Lady Hamilton reached me lately; it was accompanied with a few lines, saying I w<sup>d</sup> know how to address it, and the reason for not doing it herself. It is an additional precaution to prevent it being intercepted, but I must observe I have not observed since the war that our letters were opened.

'Enclosed I send to your Lordship an account of the hire I took & provisions by the *Cameleon*, Cap. Staines, as there was no time to make it up then. It amounts to d.353,78 carried to the debt of your Lordship's acc<sup>t</sup> & to its audit. Your bill on Alex<sup>r</sup> Davison, 10 Feb., for £100 at 43<sup>d</sup>, less 1  $\frac{1}{2}$  aggio of bank papers, d.549,77.

'Mrs Falconet presents her most respectful comp<sup>ts</sup> to your Lordship. She was, on the 18<sup>th</sup> March, safely delivered of a fine stout boy, whom she nurses herself; she is, & the child, very well.

'For news I refer your Lordship to Mr Elliot. I went to hear prayers at his house this morning with my daughters, & we shall soon have there a christening.

'I forwarded to Gibbs your Lordship's letter.

'12 canes Armorino at 26 C	...	...	...	...	...	d.31 20
12 do. do. do.	...	...	...	...	...	31 20
12 do. do. 20	...	...	...	...	...	26
6 shawls at 45 c <sup>ns</sup>	...	...	...	...	...	27
case & portorage	...	...	...	...	...	60'

756. A. L. S. from Mrs. Matcham to Lady Hamilton. Dated April 18th, 1804. 6 pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'As my little girl was very anxious to thank you for sending *her* a letter, I have indulged her by troubling you with a few lines.\* The *composition* and spelling are all her own, therefore I hope you will accept it as a faint attempt to express her gratitude for your kind recollection of her. How many thanks due to you for the happy time we spent under y<sup>r</sup> hospitable roof; God grant we may some future time *all* meet in happier days, when peace & fresh laurels will, under divine providence, restore to us our dear loved friend. May God Almighty protect him, & that he may be rewarded by ending a *long life* with happiness, is the first wish of your ever affectionate,' &c.

'No letters from Hussam.

'My most affectionate love to my ever dear Charlotte, and compt<sup>s</sup> to your circle. If a broken key is left it is ours.'

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\* The following is the letter referred to:—'I am going, by Pappa's desire, to write you a few lines to inform you how much I was delighted to see a letter from you. You desired us to keep up Pappa's resolution in coming to London, which you may be sure I will do, for I am as anxious as you to come and see you and my cousins. I have seen George's seals, and I think you have made a grand collection for him, particularly those in the in frame. Mama got home in good time for tea on Saturday. Tell my cousin Charlotte that I am much obliged to her for her kind offer of amusing us when in London. My brothers and sisters join with me in sending my love to my cousins and you.'

757. A. L. from the Rev. C. Este to the same. Dated Piercefield, Chepstow, April 25th, 1804. 3½ pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

‘When men have been on the brink of dismissal, they have done such strange deeds of courtesy (& even to strangers, too) as they never before vouchsafed to dream of amidst their most golden moments & to their best friends. This I *know* in two instances of Chancellor T. & of Harry the Ninth. And this therefore I cannot help hinting & desiring you, madam, to submit to our very dear & most excellent friend. Pray let me ask, does it not seem likely that a *certain person* may be in the same predicament soon? And then may it not be right to calculate upon something like the same effects. Could there be any harm in your advising a letter like this?’

‘Sir, I never could have trespass’d against my own nature so much as to have thought of any requital from Government without a fair claim, and had you not intimated some opinion of the claim being such, I never should have mentioned it to you again. This has been done more than once, yet may I be allowed to ask about it once more, for in the experience of our own department I have once, at least, seen and felt the effect of hurry leading to unmerited neglect; and I must deprecate indeed, as no small evil, from you, Sir, the unavailing regret of remembering, when too late, what may be lamented to have been forgotten.

‘I am, Sir, with the best wishes & respect, your humble Serv.

‘Now, my dear madam, tell me if you like this, & whether you think anything or nothing should be done. For at this distance I *guess* only at what is passing, & cannot say anything *but as I do now* in a form the most *questionable*.

‘Finally, dear madam, let me question about yourself, about your happiness and health? For without it what is life, even with charms and accomplishments such as yours is not a stranger to? And then of the Mediterranean? I hope good tidings from thence? Indeed, I cannot augur any other tidings but the best! For health can have no source as good as spirit, and what can be so spirit-stirring as the dignity of worth like his? If the enemy venture out, we are sure of a victory over them. If they continue in port, we may expect the continuance of his victory over himself, the hardest victory of all. For a high heart like his to endure a destiny where there is nothing to display but the melancholy miracles of passive valour! I have come to think of him with affectionate veneration, & I would compass sea & land if for any good purpose to him or you I could show my tenderness & zeal. May you ever both continue among the most favor’d of the Most High. Adieu, adieu, your obliged.

‘I date this from Piercefield, Chepstow, April 25, “Where Fellows read debates,” as the Duke says, to whom I would have enclosed this had I been sure you [would] have liked it, and from whom, *if you please*, you may derive a frank.

‘Of Memorabilia that is Nelsoniana or Hamiltoniana I have none since I left you, excepting that the first moment I was in Bath I met Mr. Macham, and at dinner encountered Cap<sup>t</sup> Bowen; that on Chepstow Bridge, where I alway think who have been upon it, I met a poor sailor who had served under my Lord (but in the *Culloden*) when he gave an Earldom to that prodigy of gratitude, St. Vincent, and yesterday I dined where there was a pretty young man, a school-fellow of poor Parker, over whom we made lamentations. Again, adieu.

‘Pray inform me which is the best mode of sending letters to Egypt thro’ Malta, and thro’ whom, *here & there?*’

758. A. L. S. from Lord Nelson to the same. Dated April 28th, 1804.\*  
2 pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

[‘I did not, my dearest Emma, pass over the 26th without thinking of you in the most affectionate manner, which the truest love and affectionate regard of man to a dear beloved woman, which could enter into my mind.]

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\* According to the post-mark it did not reach Lady Hamilton until July 9th, and after being redirected from Merton to Ramsgate, where she was staying at the time.



I have been for some days, and am still, very unwell, without being seriously ill, but I fret absolutely like a fool for the faults of others. It was no fault of mine that the dispatches were taken, but of those who sent them in a vessel not fit to trust my old shoes in; nor is it my fault that the *Kent*, the finest ship in the fleet, is kept so long from England, notwithstanding my representations that she is now obliged to leave the fleet, to lay guard-ship at Naples, and more will very soon be in as bad a plight. My only wish is for the coming out of the French fleet to finish all my uneasinesses. But I yet trust that the reign of Buonaparte will be soon over, and then that we shall have a few years of peace and quietness.

'Remember me kindly to all we hold most dear, [and be assured, my dear Emma, that I am for ever and ever, and if possible more than ever, yours most faithfully,] &c.

'Captain Layman, Captain Hallowell, and I believe another packet of letters for you, are now at Gibraltar.'

759. A. L. S. from Lord Nelson to the same. Dated May 3rd, 1804.  
1½ pages 4to. [P.]

'I am much better, my dearest Emma, than yesterday. The ship is this moment going off. May heavens bless and preserve my own dear Emma & H., fervently prays your most affectionate,' &c.

760. A. L. S. from the same to General Villettes.\* Dated *Victory*, June 7th, 1804. 3 pages 4to.

'I sincerely hope that the convoy brought up by the *Maidstone* has relieved your anxiety about letters by the papers I have sent. But you will not be surprised at a change of ministry; it's reported to be a coalition between the Prince of Wales and Mr. Pitt. The names seem to mark it as such to the exclusion of the Grenvilles. Pitt, Chief; Fox, L<sup>d</sup> Moira & Grey, Secretaries of State; L<sup>d</sup> Melville, Ad<sup>my</sup>; Erskine, Attorney General; the other places filled up alternately. I rather think this change, with Buonaparte being Emperor, may bring about a peace. The change, however, from a Republick, must be advantageous to England; and if the *two* Emperors like *brother* Napoleon, we can not object.

'I agree with you about the fatal security which the Cabinet of Naples so readily falls into. Gen<sup>l</sup> St. Cyr only meant to deceive them, for within a few days the French Minister held the most insulting language. Gen<sup>l</sup> Acton is probably out before this time. I am truly sensible of all your kindness, my dear General, and good wishes; they are reciprocal in the truest sense of the word. I have been but very so-so, but I hope to last the summer, or at least till Mr. Le Touche pleases to come out of his nest, which, if it is as hot as it is outside, must be very warm; but perhaps he fancies he should find it hotter outside. But out he must come some day or other, and as he says he beat me at Boulogne, it is, I think, my turn now, and that it shall be so, nothing shall be wanting on the part of, my dear friend, your much obliged,' &c.

761. A. L. S. from Sir Thomas Louis to Lady Hamilton. Dated *Leopard*, Dungeness, June 9th, 1804. 2¾ pages 4to. [P.]

'I received your very kind and obliging letter, for which I beg to return you my sincerest thanks, and I am sure John will thank you whenever he has an opportunity. I never suffered so much as I have of late about him, because when off Cadiz in the year '98, I was absolutely promised by L<sup>d</sup> S<sup>t</sup> V. that he would

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\* General William Anne Villettes, 1754-1808, a descendant of an ancient French family which had settled in England after the revocation of the Edict of Nantes. He was at first intended for the Bar, but preferred the army, and obtained a cornetcy in 1775. By 1793 he had become a Lieutenant-Colonel; highly distinguished himself at Toulon, Corsica, and Bastia, and in 1801 was given the chief command at Malta. In 1807 he was recalled, and was appointed Lieutenant-Governor of Jamaica, where he soon fell a victim to the climate.

make him a Captain when he was ready, if his Lordship was living and in a situation to do it. When I found he was gone out without noticing him, it was a death stroke to me. Had he not been placed in a frigate at home, unsolicited, which I thought was for the purpose of attending to him when opportunity offered, I might have sent him abroad the moment I came home from the Mediterranean. It could have been no use (much as I respect and love my son) to have kept him home doing nothing. His mother and myself have suffered greatly, and, poor fellow, what will be his suffering when he finds all my Lord S<sup>t</sup> V.'s promises nothing but air? What are we born for? Surely not to deceive and make our fellow-creatures miserable. The number I have seen placed over my son's head is too, too bad. Some of them I know, and after leading me astray to attend to his whims and caprice, at the time he had no intention to provide for my son. Had he not better have said so to me, when I would have taken him out of the situation he was placed in, and had then to look out among my friends. I am sure Lord Nelson had no other idea but that he intended to make my son, and I had every right to expect it when the promotion took place at the close of the war. However, I have been deceived and disappointed. I shall ever thank you for the handsome manner in which you express yourself about him. I am sure Lord Nelson will, when in his power, remember me by noticing him. If my son was not one of the best young men I know, I would not recommend him in the strong manner I do. How handsome might my Lord S<sup>t</sup> V. have done the thing by saying he made the father and son happy the same day by promoting both at the same time. However, I shall feel the more obliged to the man that does make him, and never, never shall he have the least share of my good wishes towards him. I have written Lord Nelson a long letter, and trust we shall soon hear from him. Whenever you write, pray remember me most kindly to him, and say how much I regret not being with him. I beg to be remembered to Mr. and Mrs. Cadogan and Miss Charlotte.

'P.S.—I shall be the happiest fellow in the world to get my son posted before young Pellew.\* If you would lend me the book that was printed when I saw you in town (I understood you had two copies of it), I will thank you, and depend upon my returning it faithfully, directed to me by the Coach, Deal, to the care of Mr. Meek. I shall get it safe, and will return it the moment I have read it. I understand it is a famous thing.'

762. A. L. S. from Sir William Bolton to the same. Dated H.M.S.

*Childers*, Barcelona, June 14th, 1804. 1 page 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'Permit me once more to present my sincere thanks for your repeated kindnesses shown to me in the person of my dear wife and of our dear Emma. You are unwearied in seeking opportunities of testifying your friendship, shall I not, ought I not then to be equally so of testifying my gratitude. But that I am fearful of taking up your Ladyship's time, which you so well know how to employ in benevolent actions, I should be inclined to lengthen out my letter. Let my fear, I pray you, plead my excuse (should I be deceived) for its shortness, being ever, dear madam,' &c.

'P. S.—I left the fleet, on Sunday last, off Toulon, when his Lordship was perfectly well. The purport of my coming hither was to give D<sup>r</sup> Scott a passage to the fleet. The morning I left the fleet a Neapolitan corvette arrived bringing a letter from Sir Jno. Acton, who was embarked on board a frigate going to Palermo, and detached this corvette to his Lordship from off Ustica. From what I learned from the officers of the corvette, Gen<sup>l</sup> Acton had left Naples on account of some disgust he had received from the French Ambassador. I dare not venture an opinion on this affair. Your Ladyship's *connoissance au sujet de Naples* would justly convict me of vanity should I attempt it.'

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\* The first Lord Exmouth had two sons in the navy, but from the date of the letter this was probably the eldest son, Pownall Bastard Pellew, 2nd Viscount, 1786–1833, who rose to be a Captain, and only succeeded his father in the title ten months before his own death.



763. A. L. S. from Hugh Elliot to Lord Nelson. Dated Naples, June 15th, 1804. 4 pages 4to. [P.]

'Accept of my most grateful thanks, and of those of M<sup>rs</sup> Elliot, for your kindness to our dear boy. We rely with confidence, that if God spares your life, you will in time be as useful to those of our children who embrace your honourable profession, as their good conduct may deserve. I am certain you have placed William as advantageously as possible, and I trust he will prove worthy of your protection.

'The Queen asked me for your letter to Sir John Acton, as he had left directions for her Majesty and the King to open those which might come for him. The next day they were sent to me to be translated—that of the 1st of June I did translate without hesitation in writing; but the other I only read to the Queen, as I can see no use of leaving copies of them in her hands. The originals will be sent by the first opportunity to Palermo. [With respect to the letter regarding a *friend* of your Lordship's & mine, as Addington is no longer Minister, the Queen observed, that the application to him from her would no longer meet your purpose, & as to a letter to his successor she must be regulated in that by your future explanations upon the subject.

'For my own part I take the liberty of repeating what I said at Dresden: *when the course of nature* shall have done away the obstacles which now prevent the fulfilment of a *just* measure the business will be settled without difficulty, and in my opinion *more liberally* than during the present R——n.]

'There are many things to say about the Queen, which I do not wish to commit to paper. She is in many respects so completely biassed in her attachments, by the *sad favourite* of the day, that her heart and her understanding are equally the dupe of this weakness.

'I understand that the Courts of Berlin and of Vienna will, without hesitation, acknowledge the validity of Buonaparte's new title. This Court will follow their example.

'From Spain I have no news of a later date than what is mentioned in your Lordship's letter. It is the fashion here to believe that the King of Spain will continue to avoid the war. But I speak from no authority concerning a topic which belongs to M<sup>r</sup> Frere.

'The King of Sardinia, thinking himself no longer safe in the Roman States, is expected to come to Gaeta in the course of this month. I have not failed to convey the kind expressions of your Lordship towards him through the proper channel. Ever most truly, &c.

764. A. L. S. from Lord Nelson to Lady Hamilton. Dated *Victory*, June 27th, 1804. 3½ pages 4to. [P.]

'Last night, my dearest Emma, I received your three dear letters of April 13th and 22nd, and May 13th, by way of Naples. It is the only scrap of a pen we have had from England since April 5th by *Leviathan*. You must not complain of my not writing, for I never miss an opportunity, as the following list will shew. February 25th by Barcelona, March 2nd, 15th, by Rosas; 19th, by Gibraltar; April 10th, by Rosas; 14th, by Captain Layman; 19th, 21st, 23rd, by the *Argo*; 28th, by Rosas; May 3rd, by Barcelona; 5th, by Rosas; 12th, by Rosas; 30th, 31st, by Gibraltar; June 6th, by Rosas; 10th, by Barcelona; 19th, by Rosas; [and be assured, my own Emma, that my fond attachment to you is greater if possible than ever.] You will see, and I have wrote Davison to pay every bill relating to the alterations at Merton, and that nothing is to be touched on that business from the £100 a month. I also wrote to him to pay, if I can afford it, poor blind M<sup>rs</sup> Nelson's debts. The change of ministry can do us no harm, and if Lord Melville is a true friend he may now get it for you; but, my dear Emma, all their promises are pie-crusts, made to be broken. I hope to get out of debt and to have my income clear, and then we shall do very well with prudence. I am not surprised at the time poor Davison is to be confined, after what passed in Parliament I did not expect so little, and I fear he has a heavy fine to pay besides. He would only consult Lord Moira and such clever folks, but an ignoramus like me could only warn him not to touch Boroughs. He has, poor fellow, been completely duped, and who cares? not one of those great folks. I am most

sincerely sorry for him, but a year will soon pass away. Have not I been shut up in a ship without any one comfort? He is ashore with his friends round him, and even you to go to see him. I would change with him with much pleasure. I shall write him a line, he must not kill himself, that his enemies would rejoice at, and I hope he will live to plague them. Acton being gone to Sicily, the Queen had authority to open his letters. Mr Elliot explained the one relative to her writing to Mr Addington. She said, as Mr Elliot writes me, as Mr Addington is out of office the application to him from her would no longer meet your purpose, and as to a letter to his successor, she must be regulated in that by your future explanation upon the subject. I can think a great deal. Mr Elliot likes to class you in such a way as may make a precedent—that, you recollect, was always his plan, but I shall write Acton and the Queen to say that there can be no harm in her writing to Mr Pitt. Your eminent services, and her personal obligations to you, &c. &c. But, my dear Emma, you know enough of the world not to be surprised at any forgetfulness from even great folks. How delighted I shall be with Merton, and I shall hope to find Horatia fixed there. Why not? kiss her for me, and may God bless her. I am always glad to hear that Charlotte behaves well to you. She would be very ungrateful if she was not. Remember me kindly to Mrs Cadogan and all our friends. I shall, if it pleases God, eat my Christmas dinner at dear Merton. My health absolutely requires a few months' rest, even if my services are required again. Pray God in Heaven bless and preserve you for, my dear Emma, your most faithful & affectionate, &c.

'Like a beast, in sending off dispatches for Algiers, Gibraltar, England, & Spain, I forgot to send this letter, for which I am angry enough with myself. May God bless you. The French fleet safe in Toulon; I wish from my heart they were out. Love to Horatia and to all our friends.'

765. A. L. from the same to the same. Dated *Victory*, July 1st, 1804.

1 page 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'I have a moment, and but a moment, to write you a line through Spain. I wrote you yesterday by Gibraltar, and sent you the first bill of exchange for £100 for you, and £100 for poor Mrs. Bolton. I take this opportunity of sending the second, as I dare say that this will be home months before the other. Nothing from England since April 5th. May God in Heaven bless & preserve you, my beloved Emma, for your ever most faithful & affectionate,' &c.

'All my public dispatches go for Gibraltar this day.'

766. A. L. S. from Rev. C. Este to the same. Dated *Piercefield*,

July 5th, 1804. 3¼ pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'My very dear Lady, whom I so much esteem, I cannot help troubling you. On my return here after a long journey, I am delighted with finding a letter from my Lord, whom I love and honor more than I will utter, and tho' I hope to have the happiness of seeing you in London next week (or the week after at furthest), yet I cannot help thus intruding on you with my kind remembrances and all good wishes, to thank you for having sent the letter to me, & above all to beg you will not lose a moment in thanking for me my dear, good Lord on his sending that letter and by you; for the letter, I have to say, is dated near three [or] four months ago, and how to tell him so from this place I know not. With my most earnest thanks, pray add, dear madam (or you will not be as good natured as you are wont), my most anxious thoughts, and the most affectionate strong wishes of love & zeal for his good health & spirits, & then, as for his success, I shall not think about it, for we are sure of it; it must follow wherever he leads. Would to Heaven that your destinies had been more proportioned to your singular deservings, that you had a state now in the Mediterranean, and I not a stranger to the Cabinet. That the Hero was now in full sail coming into our port with Victory, if it could be, more astonishing than his two last victories, & to crown all, with a peace of his own making in his pocket! For while we are about it we may as well wish for the best, and have a peace from the best authority rather than from the worst: from a low Scotch lawyer, who cannot write English; from an ill-conditioned monarch, who can do nothing but gabble it! Why, Doctor



Simmonds and his incurables could not do worse than all that they have hitherto been doing.

'Adieu, adieu, d<sup>r</sup> madam. I am afraid of mentioning the doctor, as I suppose he did not prescribe as he should for y<sup>r</sup> case.

'When you write to my Lord, pray forget not my congratulations on the proxy against that imposition they have the impudence to call a defence. Again, dear madam, with all good attachments, your,' &c.

767. A. L. S. from Dr. Lambton Este to Lord Nelson. Dated Malta, July 7th, 1804. 2 pages folio. [P.]

'While searching, this morning, the old papers at the Post Office for certain letters of my own, concerning which not any accurate account could be given, I accidentally met with the inclosed; from the signature on the direction, perceiving it to be on public service, I can feel but doubly assiduous in forwarding it to your Lordship.

'The letter brought by the Italian post from Sicily to Malta, about the middle of the month of May, has been laying at the office ever since, and but for a mere chance might have continued there to remain.

'This instance, one among very many others, it has been my fate to witness generally through the Mediterranean during the Egyptian expedition, no less than in the course of my present voyage, may serve to convince your Lordship, how from want of arrangement and regularity, the general service may suffer; while scarcely any individual can escape the inconveniences occasioned thereby.

'I venture thus to trouble your Lordship, as in the course of my various voyages at different periods, and in different parts of the Mediterranean, with the greatest deference to your Lordship's better judgment and opinion, it has ever appeared that were the general inspections and superintendence of the posts given in charge to some active intelligent person well acquainted with the Mediterranean, the service might be materially benefitted, and every individual embarked in its different departments, not only at Gibraltar and Malta, but generally; while such as are engaged in civil and commercial pursuits, along the Barbaresc-Levant and Adriatic, together with the former, might thence derive most material and important accommodation. I have the honour to remain,' &c.

768. A. L. from Lord Nelson to Lady Hamilton. Dated *Victory*, July 9th, 1804. 3 pages 4to. [P.]

'Last night, my dearest Emma, I received your most kind letter of May 24th, and I feel very much distressed that my numerous letters do not get quicker to your hand, but I can only write and send off; indeed, I dare say, if I was the carrier, they would not be so long in travelling. I have mentioned the date of every letter, and how they went, in a letter sent a few days ago by Barcelona: in March, three; in April, six; in May, five; in June to the 19th, three; June 27th, July 1st. I must not write a word of any political matter, for, as I send this through Mr Falconet, I have assured him that nothing which can in any manner commit him in his employ with the French Government, shall be put in the letter. This, I am sure I may say, that we have had no summer here. For the last four days not a boat could pass. Before many months I shall certainly see all your improvements, and if the Government, after some rest, want my services, they shall have them, but I must have a change of air, for always shut up in the *Victory's* cabin, cannot be very good for the constitution. I think you will find me grown thin, but never mind. Your trip to Canterbury I should suppose the very worst you could take; for, on any alarm, there you must stay, and in a town filled with soldiers; but if you like it I am content. However, we know to June 18th all was safe. What a long letter Sir Sidney Smith has wrote. Well, this is an odd war—not a battle! Admiral Campbell\* always inquires after you, and

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\* Admiral Sir George Campbell, G.C.B., promoted to be Rear-Admiral in 1801, afterwards Admiral of the White and Commander-in-Chief at Portsmouth, where he committed suicide, while in a state of temporary insanity, in 1821.

desires to be kindly remembered. I have little to say—one day is so like another, and having long ago given you one day, there is no difference but the arrival of a letter or newspapers; the same faces, and almost the same conversation. [As for the great man at the P<sup>y</sup>, I care nothing about him or her. She is a deep one.] Remember me kindly to all our friends, and be assured I am [for ever, my dearest Emma, your most faithful and affectionate. Kiss dear Horatia for me.

[‘July 11th. We have the French news to June 28th. I have wrote to the q<sup>n</sup> & lady at Naples about your pension. I think she must try & do something. God bless you. July 12th. We have Paris papers to June 27th. I believe we are never to hear from England again.]. Yours,’ &c.

769. A. L. S. from Lady Bolton to the same. Dated Cranwich, July 9th, 1804. [P.]

‘I write to return thanks both in my daughter’s person and my own, for your handsome present of a coral which we received yesterday. We all admire it very much, *Miss Emma Horatia* amongst the rest, for she is attracted by the brightness. It is the handsomest we ever saw. Permit me, now I am on the subject of thanks, to express my gratitude for your kindness on all occasions, and for your recommending Sir William so strongly to Lord Nelson, which I shall ever feel particularly grateful for; but I must quit this subject, for were I to express half what I feel I should fill my paper, and you would think me very stupid.

‘I am very anxious to fill all your injunctions, but part of them only I have been able to follow, for I cannot boast of being very strong myself, but my little girl is literally as fat as a pig. We reckon very much of seeing you at the time you fixed. My sister will go to Swaffham one day this week and learn what is to be done there on the first of August, and as soon as we know my mother will write to you. We are much obliged to you for giving Miss Conner permission to visit us. We expect to hear from her every day to fix the time. Mrs. Pierson and Constance are with us; they make us very gay, for she is very cheerful. Mr. and Mrs. Comyn dined with us the other day; we think they will [be] pleasant neighbours to us.

‘Mrs. Dashwood is in a very indifferent state of health; she goes out hardly anywhere. My sister has been at Stanham and is but just returned, and we have been out nowhere, therefore I have no Norfolk news for Mrs. Nelson. My mother desires her love to the D<sup>r</sup> and Mrs. Nelson. Mrs. Pierson unites, with all our family, in love and comp<sup>ts</sup> to your circle. Believe me,’ &c.

770. A. L. S. from Mrs. Bolton to the same. Dated July 16th, 1804. 3 pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

‘I hope I may congratulate you on having letters from my dear brother. We have got one from S<sup>r</sup> W<sup>m</sup> Bolton, dated as late as June the 14, from Barcelona. Your letter of the 25th of March gave the first intelligence of the birth of little girl. My Lord had told him the name, *Emma Horatia*, & that you and he were to answer for it. He is not a little delighted you may be sure. He means to write to you to express his thanks for your repeated kindness to his wife & daughter. Had you any thing by the *Argo*? Kate expected a parcel, but none has arrived.

‘And now, my dear friend, we look forward to the pleasure of seeing you one day next week as you *promised*. Nothing is likely to be done on the first of August, therefore on that day we will, if you please, have the christening. I hope you will give us notice of the day you intend coming, whether Saturday, Sunday, or Monday, 20th or 23rd. Be so kind as to tell the D<sup>r</sup> Mr. Bolton has received his letter, & will settle with Mrs. Spinks as he wishes, or any thing he can do for him.

‘The Dashwoods are all in a bustle again. The marriage has been proved, & they are going to law again about 20,000*l.*, which was the part of Mrs. Dashwood’s fortune which Mr. Bideux claims. Poor woman, her mind has been ill at ease; now the worst is known, I hope she will recover her health & spirits. The united love & good wishes of this family attend all your circle.

‘Miss Connor just arrived. Believe me,’ &c.



771. A. L. S. from Miss Anne Bolton to the same. Dated Stanmore, July 19th, 1804. 4 pages 4to. [P.]

'I would have thanked you sooner for the few affectionate lines you sent me by Bowen, tho' indeed the life we lead is so uniformly quiet, that tho' we are perfectly happy and comfortable, it is very unfavourable to letter writing. However, I began to think this morning that dear Lady Hamilton would forget her Anne if she did not remind her that there is still such a troublesome being living. It gives me much pleasure to find that Miss Connor is not to go into Norfolk till you go; I should not know what to do without her, she is so companionable to me, who, you know, would have none without her, for Eliza, when most agreeable, I consider as nothing, and my father is very much in town. She is so good, she seems quite content with the very retired life we lead. We have got our instrument, which, with books and work, form our whole amusement; sometimes, by way of variety, we have the old woman come down, who behaves extremely well, and is become quite attached to Miss Connor. Sometimes we sing to her till the poor thing sheds tears, and we are obliged to leave off. I am glad I have got over the horror I once felt in her presence, because it is in my power, the short time I am here, to contribute a little to her comfort. We have beautiful walks in this neighbourhood, which Miss Connor and I enjoy, and you, dearest Lady Hamilton, are often the subject of our conversation. I live on the pleasing hope of seeing you once more before we begin our journey, which will not be till the 22<sup>d</sup> of Aug.; but possibly, as you are so well and happy, you may prolong your stay at Ramsgate. I was quite delighted with the account Bowen gave me of you. I made him talk for an hour about you, and indeed, to do him justice, he seemed as fond of the subject as myself, and thank you for the little darling pin-cushion, which is treasured up and only taken out occasionally to be kissed. A few nights ago I had an alarming attack of the same complaint which was very near killing me a year and a half ago. I fainted away and terrified them all. Eliza declares she began to consider what she could do without me. Thank God, and my father's skill, I am again well. Pray write to me; if it is but such little a scrap as I have hitherto had from you, I shall be content. How often we long to have a peep at you, and I wish, too, you could sometimes see how happy we all are! Next week we are going to Mr. Emmett, near Hertford.

'Miss Conner & Eliza desire their best love to you, as would daddy, were he at home. God bless you, most dear L<sup>y</sup> Hamilton. Believe me,' &c.

772. A. L. S. from Mrs. Bolton to the same. Dated Cranwich, July 20th, 1804. 3 pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'It was indeed a great disappointment for us your postponing your visit into Norfolk for a month later, but be assured I shall be happy to see you *when* you can make it agreeable. We were in hopes of seeing Miss Connor, but find, by your Ladyship's letter, we are not to expect that pleasure till you come. Emma, according to your desire, is got as fat as a little pig. Kate is certainly better, and is going as far as Ely to-day for the first time, when Susanna will call at Helwin and see Mrs. Spinks on the D<sup>r</sup>'s business. I hope the baths will quite restore your health, and that you will be better next winter than you were this last. My girls are not yet gone to school. I wished to have spoken to you about my brother's 200*l*. he is so generous to allow me at this time. This, you know, is my last time of receiving it; do not think me encroaching for mentioning of it. Mr. Bolton begs me to assure you he has not forgotten he is indebted to you, but times are very hard for farmers. Many have failed this season, but he says the corn begins to be higher, & he looks forward to a better year. The Archdeacon & Mrs. Young & family are still at Yarmouth, but Mr. Johnson is at Swaffham, as I hear of his troop going to the play, for [be?] it known the Barn, *alias* playhouse, is open for a few evenings, and all the genteel people of the neighbourhood attend. Mrs. Langford has changed her house for a better one in the churchyard. She is in high spirits; her son is ordered to the coast of Africa; if there is a Spanish war, he will come back immensely rich. Lady Bolton begs I will thank you for her letter. We all join in affectionate regards to you, my brother & Mrs. Nelson. Believe me,' &c.

773. A. L. S. from Mrs. Matcham to the same. Dated Merton, July 26th, 1804.  $1\frac{3}{4}$  pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'We arrived here on Tuesday even<sup>g</sup>, and had the pleasure of seeing Mrs. Cadogan quite well. The improvements are going on very rapidly, & dear Merton is looking delightful; all is, as usual, peace & quiet. I *behave* very well *this time*, & look forward to the happiness of our all meeting soon again some future day. We have some hope of spending the first of August with you all at Canterbury. If nothing happens to prevent us, we shall be at Canterbury on Monday evening. Pray give my best love to Mrs. Nelson, & tell her not to put herself to the least inconvenience on our acc<sup>t</sup>, as she can secure two beds for us at an inn for a few nights. We have George with us, & no serv<sup>t</sup>. I think of seeing you all with so much pleasure, that I feel even now that something may prevent us. With our best love to all the party, I remain,' &c.

774. A. L. S. from the same to the same. Dated 'Sunday Morning' (1804?). 1 page 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'Many thanks, my dear Lady Hamilton, for your very kind invitation, which would have made me most happy to have accepted of; but God only knows when we shall have the happiness of seeing you, for our eldest boy, who came from school on account of our severe loss, is now in bed with the measles, which we have no doubt was the disorder which deprived us of our dear boy. It is most likely all the little ones will fall ill. We must rely on the protection of Providence to support us in this dreadful prospect. With our united affect<sup>ts</sup> wishes to you & y<sup>r</sup> family,' &c.

775. A. L. S. from Lord Nelson to Sir Peter Parker. Dated *Victory*, August 4th, 1804. 3 pages 4to. [P.]

'I have received your kind letter of May 30th, and although I most sincerely condole with you on the premature death of my dear friend and contemporary, your son, yet from his constant ill state of health it was an event to be hourly expected, and latterly sincerely to be wished. In your grandson, Peter, you possess everything which is amiable, good, and manly, an officer and a gentleman; we part with him with regret. I own, my dear Sir Peter, that my ambition would never have been higher gratified than to have made him both a Commander and a Post. I have been deprived of one step, and may be of the other, but be sure of my warmest and affectionate interest for his welfare as long as I live; never, whilst I breathe, shall I forget your kindness for me, to which I owe all my present honor. May God bless you, my dear friend, and keep you in health many, many years, is the most sincere and affectionate wish of your ever most obliged and affectionate,' &c.

'I beg my kindest respects to both Mrs. Ellis's, and to the Mr. Ellis I have the pleasure of knowing.'

776. A. L. S. from Miss Anne Bolton to Lady Hamilton. No date (August 6th, 1804).  $3\frac{1}{2}$  pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'This moment, dearest L<sup>y</sup> Hamilton, am I arrived in town, where we stay a few days that we may enjoy the society of our relations. Most delightful was the sight of Oliver, who brought me your dear letter. How very good you are to think of me and write to me so often. All I can do in return is to tell you how truly grateful I am, and with all the affection of which my heart is capable do I love you. On the 15th you tell me you go into Norfolk; on the 22nd, we set out on a tour which will not be ended till the middle of November. Think, then, dear Lady Hamilton, how long, how very long, it must be before we meet if you unfortunately do not make London in your way. But at all events you must go to Merton; if so, I will see you; nothing shall prevent it, as God knows when we may again have the opportunity. I have a horror of this journey which is



indescribable and unaccountable, and really ungrateful to many kind friends who, I know, will omit nothing to make me happy ; but you know the only requisites to make me entirely so is the society of those I sincerely love. I am very much rejoiced to find that poor dear Charlotte is relieved from the horrid pain she has endured. I was very much afraid it was not the toothache, and was only last night talking to my father about her, and asking him if he did not think a warm sea bath would be serviceable. He thought it would, but he will be happy to find it is now unnecessary. The Cap<sup>a</sup> Jones who called on you cannot be our friend, as he has been for some time at Denbigh, where he is on military duty. I expect I shall meet with him during our excursion. Miss Connor is with us and quite well. She desires her love to you. I am going on Saturday to see Mrs. H. Yonge at her cottage, and the dear babes. My father is to drive me in the old curricule ; it is only sixteen miles. I shall stay one night with her, and hope we shall not quarrel. Has any body seen a house likely to suit you in town for next winter ? There is a charming one in Curzon Street, but I fear you will think two hundred a year too much for an unfurnished house. It belongs to a friend of ours, Mr. Noble. You tell me to write you a comfortable letter. Alas ! I have nothing at all pleasant to write about, but Mr. Oliver very kindly and thoughtfully brought me a frank. I w<sup>d</sup> not therefore let it be lost. I must now conclude, having two more letters to write by this post. Eliza goes on very well ; indeed, she cannot do otherwise living at Stanmore, for she can neither run after Grassini every day or get in debt. But to do her justice, I think she has now no inclination for the latter. Write to me and tell me if I may indulge the sweet hope of seeing you before we begin our journeys ; as soon as you know your plans, have compassion on me and let me know. I am glad Mrs. Bianchi is with you ; it will do her good, and add to your society very agreeably. Give my love to her. Papa smiled when I kiss'd him for you, and desires his affectionate regards. Eliza's love. If you speak of me to the Nelsons, remember me to them.'

777. A. L. from Lord Nelson to the same. Dated *Victory*, August 13th, 1804. 4 pages 4to.

'If I could tell when to begin a letter to my dearest, beloved Emma, I could never tell when to stop. I want and wish to tell you all my thoughts and feelings, but that is impossible ; for thoughts so rush upon thoughts, that I cannot, as I said before, know where to begin a letter. The jog-trot of [that] I have receiv'd, &c., &c., but ill accords with my feelings. The *Ambuscade* brought me your letters to June 5th, viz., Apl. 9th, 15th, 18th ; May 14th, 22nd, 30th, *via* Lisbon ; May 10th, 18th, 29th ; June 1st, 4th, 6th, by sea. The box you mention is not arrived, nor have I a scrap of a pen or newspaper from Davison. What can be the meaning of all this ? I do not understand it.

'Mrs. Voller has sent out her son, but what can I do for a child who has never been at sea ? for although he may have been borne upon ships' books, that will not make him a seaman. With all those advantages, or rather disadvantages, it must be some years before he can qualify himself to be a Lieut. Capt. Hardy has been so good as to rate him Mid. here, and lent him to Capt. Durban, where, if he chuses, he may learn his profession. I know Mrs. Voller's uniform kindness to you and her goodness to the children upon every occasion, and therefore I should certainly be glad to do what I can to oblige her & good Mr. Voller ; but I cannot, my dear Emma, do what is absolutely impossible. I have wrote her a civil letter. I have had the lad to dinner, and I have requested Capt. Durban, who is a very clever man, to keep him. I am equally obliged to good Hardy about Charles ; if Capt. Hillyer cannot rate him, Hardy will. Capel could do nothing for him in that way, therefore, from all circumstances, I have removed him entirely from the *Phæbe* and placed him in the *Niger* with a most excellent Captain, and who, I hope, will keep him until his time is served. I do not think he has yet learnt much of his business as a seaman, but I will answer his intellects are good enough. His eye is saved, and I do not think there will be a blemish. Mr. Magrath, the surgeon of the *Victory*, has been very kind and attentive to him. Mr. Scott had him every day to read and write. In the *Phæbe* he was allowed to do as he pleased, and to throw away money. Only think of 11 pr. of boots, half boots and shoes. We shall now sett him off again, and he

shall have 30*l.* a year, and that, I am sure, is abundance. The lad is well disposed, and I have no fears about him; nothing, my own Emma, shall be wanting on my part to be useful to him.

'I do not believe one syllable of the intention of the late Admiralty to remove me without my own application. I verily believe so much the contrary, that I much doubt if they would have suffer'd me to come home without very much contesting the point. I have every reason to believe that, as a Board, my whole conduct met their entire approbation, and, to say the truth, the old Earl was led wrong ag<sup>t</sup> his better judgment many a time. I am not so vex't with him as with the others. I am sure he would have promoted Bolton if they had mentioned him. But never mind; the late Admiralty have the execrations of the service for destroying as much as in them lay *the Navy*.'

778. A. L. from the same to the same. No date (August 13th, 1804\*).  
1½ pages 8vo., with Superscription. [P.]

'My beloved, how I feel for your situation and that of our dear Horatia, our dear child. Unexampled love, never I trust to be diminished, never; no, even death, with all his terrors, would be jubilant compared even to the thought. I wish I had all the small-pox for her, but I know the fever is the natural consequence. I dreamt last night I heard her call papa, and point to her arm just as you described. Give Mrs. Gibson a guinea for me, and I will repay you. Dear wife, good, adorable friend, how I love you, and what would I not give to be with you this moment, for I am for ever all yours.'

779. A. L. S. from the same to the same. Dated *Victory*, August 13th, 1804. 2½ pages 4to.

'I am now going to state a thing to you and to request your kind assistance, which, from my dear Emma's goodness of heart, I am sure of her acquiescence in. Before we left Italy I told you of the extraordinary circumstance of a child being left to my care and protection. On your first coming to England I presented you the child, dear Horatia. You became, to my comfort, attached to it, so did Sir William, thinking her the finest child he had ever seen. She is become of that age when it is necessary to remove her from a mere nurse and to think of educating her. Horatia is by no means destitute of a fortune. My earnest wish is that you would take her to Merton, and if Miss Connor will become her tutoress under your eye, I shall be made truly happy. I will allow Miss Connor any salary you may think proper. I know Charlotte loves the child, and therefore at Merton she will imbibe nothing but virtue, goodness, and elegance of manners, with a good education, to fit her to move in that sphere of life she is destined to move in.

'I shall tell you, my dear Emma, more of this matter when I come to England, but I am now anxious for the child's being placed under your protecting wing. Perhaps I ought to have done this before, but I must not, in justice to my charge, defer it for any consideration longer. May God bless you, my dear Emma, and reward you tenfold for all the goodness you have already shewn Horatia, and ever be assured that I am,' &c.

780. A. L. S. from Charles Connor† to the same. Dated H.M. Ship *Niger*, off Toulon, August 18th, 1804. 1¼ pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'I now embrace this opportunity of writing to you, as I am in perfect good health, and hope that these few lines will find you the same. I am sorry to say that I have lost the sight of my right eye through a midshipman heaving an olive stone at me, which chanced to go into my eye. Lord Nelson was so good as to take me to the *Victory* to try what the surgeon of her could do towards it. I suffered a good deal, but it was all to no purpose, which, I am now sorry to say,

\* The following words are added in another hand: 'The enclosed found in a letter to Lady H., dated *Victory*, August 13th, 1804.'

† Lady Hamilton's cousin.



I have entirely lost the sight of it. His Lordship has now chose to send me into the *Niger*, but I still belong to the *Victory*, so that I am only lent to D<sup>n</sup>. When I was at Gibraltar in the *Phoebe* about last February, I wrote two letters to your Ladyship. I have been expecting an answer in every ship that has come from England, but when I have heard that there was none for me, I have been almost ready to run mad through disappointment. I can't express what happiness I shall feel if you will write to me, for I have never had but one letter from my mother since I have been out here, and none from your Ladyship, so I conclude with love to your Ladyship and Mrs. Cadogan, no more from your loving and sincere relation.'

781. A. L. S. from Mr. Lambton Este to Lord Nelson. Dated Malta, August 20th, 1804. 2½ pages folio. [P.]

'Your Lordship's favour of the 3rd August I had the honour of receiving duly by the *Amazon*; not at all surprized that Monsieur Latouche Treville should be endeavouring to find your Lordship anywhere, where your Lordship does not happen to be; cannot abandon hope that your Lordship may yet have fair opportunity of letting him know, and in the most unequivocal manner precisely where it is your Lordship may occasionally be met with, in order not to leave room for mistakes in future.

'The administration of the Posts I never should have ventured to mention to your Lordship had the inconvenience thereof been confined to myself or to my friends. But in the course of present and preceding voyages, I never remember meeting a single individual, in any rank or situation, who had not been to greater or less degree a sufferer. Under such an impression, and the remembrance of certain observations not in the way of every person to make, I felt it incumbent upon myself, as a kind of duty, to communicate the result of my experiences to your Lordship, especially on an opportunity and an act of irregularity like that of Mons<sup>r</sup> Latouche Treville's letter.

'The enclosed will afford further confirmation of anything that may have been before mentioned, no account is given of it. The present letter did not appear at the post office till very lately, probably came from Gibraltar in the *Termagant*, and for some trivial reason or other had been thrown into that part of the office commonly called in England the dead-letter office, from whence I have the honour of redeeming and of forwarding it.

'My father, concerning whom your Lordship makes such kind enquiries, I parted with in high health in London. On leaving him he put the annexed into my hand, and desired me to deliver the same myself unto your Lordship. I have since been preserving it under vain but flattering expectations that the chapter of accidents might have afforded me the satisfaction of so doing.

'Mr. Lock, on the 19th June, with Capt. Vincent of the *Arrow*, sailed from Smyrna. Capt. Vincent has since written to announce their speedy voyage. Mr. Lock may be expected daily on return to Malta before taking a fresh departure for the Levant, or will send such instructions as will determine and guide the movements of,' &c.

'Lazaretto, Malta, September 18th, 1804. The enclosed dispatch, left open for your Lordship's perusal, contains the particulars of the unhappy fate of Charles Lock, Esquire, late Consul-General in Egypt. Again, my Lord, I remain, with the greatest consideration and regard,' &c.

782. A. L. S. from Lord Nelson to Lady Hamilton. Dated *Victory*, October 2nd, 1804. 3 pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'It was only yesterday, my dearest Emma, that I received your letter of July 1st, it having travelled in a Spanish smuggling boat to the coast of Italy and returned again to Spain, the boat not having met any of our ships. I am anxious to put you right about my proxy, and that Lord Moira's having it could have had no influence against Mr. Addington, not having done anything for me or my friends; you will see that it was entrusted to support Mr. Addington. Perhaps Davison has been the innocent cause of any one having my proxy, for I never

liked giving it. Lord M(oira), in his letter to Davison, says,—“being entrusted by him with the charge of repelling any attack which envy might even aim at his character, I will give myself the pride of being ostensibly confided in by him, and in political questions I shall hold myself bound to give his vote as his relation to the Ministry requires, though it may be in contradiction to my own.”

‘On January 13th, 1804, I signed the proxy and sent it to Davison with the following extract : “I have intrusted him with what I did not believe I would have entrusted any man, and I hope he will be a firm supporter of Mr. Addington’s Administration.” This did not get home till March, therefore no vote was given in Mr. Addington’s administration, but you see if any had, it would have been to support Mr. Addington, therefore it could have had no influence upon Mr. Addington if his inclination had led him to do anything ; but the fact is, that if my pension was entailed so would Lord St. Vincent’s, and at a time he was to be turned out for misconduct, that I take to be the reason. I think I should not have given my vote against Pitt. I am no party man as a tool, if I am to be a part of Administration it alters the case. If Pitt is attentive to me he shall have my vote. I have told you, my dearest Emma, all this that you might see my conduct had nothing to do with *Addington’s* conduct.

‘I have kept myself in this letter entirely to the subject of yours. You see Lord Moira bound himself to support Addington. God bless you.’

783. A. L. from the same to the same. Dated *Victory*, October 10th, 1804. 3 pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

‘This, my [own] dearest Emma, will, I dare say, be the last letter you will receive before you see [your own Nelson]. Whatever arrangements are made about me by the Ministers, it is all settled long before this time. You will know from the Admiralty about my quarantine, but I dare say it will not be longer than return of post. I would wish you, my Emma, to remain at Merton. You are sure I shall lose no time, and it is possible, if I have leave to strike my flag at that same moment that I get pratique, that I shall not land at Portsmouth. As I wrote you before, I think the *Superb* will carry me, but if a senior Admiral comes out, I am subject to his will and pleasure. If all our house is not finished it can be done next summer, and we shall get through the winter very comfortable I have no doubt. Your last letters were to August 27th. You write so naturally that I fancy myself almost, not *quite*, in your [dear] company, but that will soon be, and I hope you have fixt H(oratia) at Merton. We have had much bad weather, and it has disagreed very much with me. [Davison will pay all the bills, therefore you will not be more troubled on that matter.] I have much to say to you [but that I shall reserve to our happy, happy meeting. May God bless you, my dearest Emma, prays ever your faithful. You will to the Duke of Q., &c. &c., say everything that is civil. Love to Mrs. Cadogan, Charlotte, &c.].’

784. A. L. S. from Captain Sutton\* to the same. Dated *Amphion*, Plymouth, October 20th, 1804. 3 pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

‘I am very unexpectedly come to England, having in charge one of the Spanish frigates taken off Cadiz on the 5th instant, for y<sup>e</sup> particulars I refer you to Captain Moore’s† public letter to the Admiralty. They are very valuable, having

\* Rear-Admiral Samuel Sutton, 1760–1832, entered the Navy in 1777, received post rank in 1797, and commanded the *Alcmene* at Copenhagen. After being in the *Victory*, he removed to the *Amphion*, and had the good fortune to assist in the capture of a Spanish fleet laden with specie. Captain Sutton was advanced to the rank of Rear-Admiral in 1821.

† Captain, afterwards Admiral Sir Graham Moore, commanded the *Indefatigable*, which, with some other ships, fell in with four Spanish vessels from South America. Captain Moore resolved to detain these vessels, and an action commenced. One was blown up, and the remaining three were taken. Spain being at peace with England, great indignation was expressed, and the conflict led to a Spanish war. Sir Graham, who was a brother of Sir John Moore, became a Rear-Admiral in 1812, was nominated a K.C.B. in 1815, and occupied a seat at the Admiralty Board from 1816 to 1820.



on board nearly one million sterling in specie, besides cochineal & other valuable merchandise. I hope it will turn out a good thing for that great & good man Lord Nelson, as well as for myself. The frigate I was opposed to took fire & blew up in action. I could only save one officer & forty-four men. Thirteen ladies, passengers from South America, were lost in the ship. On the 2nd instant off Gibraltar I spoke the *Childers*, Sir William Bolton, who left Lord Nelson on the 22nd September off Toulon. Bolton told me his Lordship meant to leave the fleet in a few days afterwards in the *Superb* for England, so that if this Spanish business does not prevent him from quitting the command, his arrival may be very shortly looked for. I hope your Ladyship has enjoyed good health since I had the pleasure of seeing you. I never was better, it could not be otherwise with me, for Lord Nelson's kindness has been unbounded to me. When the *Childers* left the fleet his Lordship was tolerably well. I have no idea of what is to become of the *Amphion*; but wherever Lord Nelson is employ'd I hope I shall be so happy as to be with him. May I hope for the honour of hearing from you, for believe me to be,' &c.

'Two of the frigates present on this occasion belonged to Admiral Cornwallis, the other two to Lord Nelson, so that it prevents any dispute as to right to share prize money.'

785. A. L. S. from Mrs. Bolton to the same. No date (October 21st, 1804). 3 pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'Indeed, my dear Lady Hamilton, I was made most happy when I received your very acceptable letter; we were fearfull, what was the case, that you were not well, and had there been a sheet of paper in the house our letters would have met.

'What a *distressed party* did you leave at Cranwich; poor Mrs. Pierson with her *palpitation*, and Lady Bolton with her nervous complaint, Susanna drowned in tears, & Mr. Bolton & myself not the best of the party; we never went to church or ever even changed our dress, but set talking of the travellers. On Monday came Mr. Wm. Bolton in his way into Suffolk; on Thursday we had another separation, Mrs. Pierson, Kate, & her two children, went for Brancaster. Thank you for your *confidential* intelligence; all I shall say is I am glad the present administration know so well how to act with generosity to a man they are so much indebted to. Query: if Lord Moira had still the proxy, would they have been so anxious to show their regard? I shall now be anxious to see every paper, to look for the arrivals of the ships from the Medit., but your letters in all probability will first announce the pleasing news of my brother's arrival. God grant he may be better health than we expect; at least, I am sure he will have the best nurse in the world. Take great care of yourself that you may be well enough for the occasion. How is poor Horace? Well, I hope, by your not mentioning him. Give my love to Mrs. Cadogan and all the young folks. My girls, I suppose, are thinking of going to school. We have seen none of our pleasant neighbours since you left us. The Mayor's ball is put in grand style in the Norwich papers. It says, after supper Lady Hamilton rose and drank the Mayor's health in *three times three*.

'No letter from you to-day, therefore, of course, nothing new. Is the taking the Spanish frigates a declaration of war? God bless you, my dear friend, accept the love and good wishes of our *small party*, believe me,' &c.

'P.S.—What shoes did you order from Swaffham; here are a pair of yellow for you, & two pr. for Caroline. Shall I send yours by the girls' cloaks either to-day or Tuesday?'

786. A. L. S. from Mrs. Matcham to the same. Dated 2 Portland Place, Bath, October 21st (1804). 2 pages 4to. with Superscription. [P.]

'You will think I have been a long time without writing, but the letter from Cranwich I did not receive till a few days since. We are very anxious to know

when you heard from my dear brother, & how he was in health. It is reported he is coming home from ill-health, which I trust is only a report from those that wish it ; but it will make me happy to hear from you that he is coming home well and rich with dollars, as we understand that the Spanish frigates are taken within the limits of his command. Do let us know what is to be the result of these great captures. I should have been truly happy to have taken a peep at you all in Norfolk. With our united best wishes to all the party, I remain,' &c.

787. A. L. S. from Mrs. Bolton to the same (with one to her daughter).

No date (October 25th, 1804).  $3\frac{1}{4}$  pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'Your *scrap* was most acceptable to us. I hope with Capt Sutton that the prizes will be condemned—30,000*l.* to my Lord's share will be a *pretty* thing. You may indeed dayly look for him. Be assured I shall be ready to obey your orders whenever called upon. Do not be surprised if he does not arrive so soon as you expect. I think it is very likely that if he falls in with the *Medora* he may cruize a little off Cadiz just to skim a little of the cream & bring you home *the bushell* of dollars. I hope *the golden* ships will not slip through his fingers. Kate has had a letter from her husband, dated 27th August—quite in the fidgets at my lord's leaving the fleet. He says it is reported there Sr John Orde is to have the command, but we know better. He says his Lordship regrets he could not put him in a frigate, but he says he could wait with patience if he was certain when he did get one it would be under Lord Nelson's command. He has sent a parcel by Capt Sutton for his wife. I am glad the girls merit your goodness to them in being observant of what you say ; I am sure it to their advantage. I hope you will remember your promise and write again on Friday, as your letters are all we have to look forward to. Believe me,' &c.

(TO HER DAUGHTER ELIZA.)

'I thank you for your letter, and rejoice to hear you have had a bad tooth out. I am sorry it was so much pain to take out, but comfort yourself that you would have suffered much more had it remained in. We sent your cloaks on Monday to Edmonton. Write as soon as you get there in answer to your sister's letter. Write by return of post at least on Saturday, to say whether you will have the cake sent on Anne's birthday, which is on Tuesday next, or whether it will not be better the week after, as perhaps you will not be got there. The latest time will suit us best, as we shall then have done all y<sup>r</sup> cloaks. Remember, it shall be as you like best. Give all our kind love to Anne, Charlotte & Miss Connor, and kind regards to M<sup>rs</sup> Cadogan. Believe me,' &c.

788. A. L. S. from Lady Bolton to the same. Dated Brancaster, October 25th (1804).  $3\frac{1}{2}$  pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'We were made very happy to find from your letter to Mrs. Pierson that you got to town safe and well. We fancied you were ill from not hearing from you at the time you promised, and left Cranwich in low spirits about you ; but as it was nothing but a cold, I hope you will soon get the better of it. I was so much affected at parting with you, that I could not express my thanks for all your kindness to me during your stay at Cranwich, and indeed at every other time since I have had the pleasure of knowing you. I hope you will believe that it was not feeling your *great kindness* too little, but *too much*, that made me unable to express it as I ought and wished, but I *felt* it the *more*. My dear little Emma grows fat and looks very well ; the air of Brancaster agrees with her. Her grandmama and aunts doat on her and were always nursing ; but I do not think they are any of them, except her grandmama, that nurse so well or so much as Miss Nelson and Miss Conner. Lady Mary Bradshaw will be very happy to see Lady Hamilton again ; she sends as may kisses as you can think of. This is what her Ladyship desires me to say, and desires me to add that Emma sends you her best love and as many kisses as you like to take. She desires her best love to all the party by name and plenty of kisses ; she would be glad to see you all.



Lady Mary sends her love to Cecillia—this is in her own words. She means to write to you all very soon. I find, from your letter to Mrs. Pierson, which she has shown me, that Miss Conner has informed you of the dispute between her and Susanna. I should not have mentioned it if she had not, but as she has, I shall take the liberty of saying a few words on the subject. Susanna once wished to have mentioned the matter to you herself, but she was too generous to endeavour to make you displeased with Miss Conner, and therefore for fear of that continued silent; but she was very anxious you should not think her to blame in the affair, for she was too partial to you not to wish to behave well to any relation or even acquaintance of yours. Miss Conner certainly did offer her hand once, but she insisted on Susanna acknowledging herself to blame as well as she was, which, as my sister thought herself right in the whole affair, she could not expect Susanna (who, tho' a girl, is certainly a warm temper) would do. Miss Conner knows I afterwards tried all my influence to induce Miss Conner to make the slightest apology, as I knew it would have been accepted, but she refused me, tho' I certainly could have no other intention than to make peace between them. You seem to think Susanna equally wrong with Miss Conner, but I think if you knew the whole affair you would not think so; perhaps you think me too partial to be a judge, but at least Susanna said nothing and the other a great deal. I know Susanna took great pains to behave very politely to Miss Conner, because it was in her own house. As to her not bidding Miss Conner good-bye, was her own fault, as the slightest notice would have been followed by Susanna kissing and making friends with her, and she could not be more hurt at Susanna's behaviour than I was at hers, as she never bid me good-bye or took the smallest notice of me; when I turned to kiss her, she was gone. This, I own, hurt me very much indeed, as I have a great regard for Miss Conner. I think she is clever and has a good heart, nor should I have mentioned this or anything else against her but in defence of my sister, who I must love better, and who I could not bear to find blamed when I thought she did not deserve it, especially by those who I am fond of. If I thought her wrong, I certainly should not have joined in blaming, but I should have been silent. Why Miss Conner should so pointedly neglect me I cannot guess, as I always endeavoured, while she was with us, to behave to her with kindness and attention; as I really am partial to her, it vexed me the more. I hope Miss Conner will not be offended with me for what I have written. I certainly do think her wrong in this affair, and that I told her, but every body is wrong sometimes, and I have as good an opinion of her as ever; indeed, I really love her very much.

'I fear I shall have tired you with this long and, to you, uninteresting letter, but I am too much attached to you to bear you to be displeased with those I love; you must therefore excuse me. Give my love to all your party, and write to me soon as you promised. Your much obliged,' &c.

'P.S.—All the party desire their love to your fireside.'

789. A. L. S. from Mrs. Bolton to the same. No date (October 28th, 1804. 3 pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'The Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr. Bolton made a choice collection of shrubs, &c., at Hollesly, wh<sup>h</sup> we sent to you on Tuesday by the coach; on Friday we sent from Cranwich a second parcel and a hare directed to Merton, which we shall be glad to find arrived safe. I wrote to both you and Eliza on Friday, expecting to have had a letter from her as *this day* according to my request, but I shall not send cake or anything more till she writes from Edmonton. Mr. Bolton desires me to say the man's bill for horses at Stoke is 9 guineas; he says I must write, as he pledged his *word* to you that he would say the amount.

'Let us know when this Spanish business is settled; I am fearful lest they should not be condemned. No prizes, I doubt, in the lottery? Susanna says we have no right to expect any; the Spanish dollars to my Lord is *sufficient* prize for one time. We have had a letter from Mr. Cumming; much more comfortable than they expected at Bridgeton, drier than they thought it was. I suppose they and the Denhams are better friends.

'Not a soul have I seen or heard of since you left us. What can Mr.

Dashwood mean by not permitting his son and daughter to go anywhere. Give my kind comp<sup>ts</sup> to Mrs. Cadogan. I wish I was your near neighbours. Susanna and [I] amuse ourselves by thinking, if we were within a ride or walk of Merton, how pleasant it would be to us; next to reality, you know, visions are the happiest.

'I am sure it is time for me to conclude this *dreaming* epistle, but you can toss it in the fire when tired. Remember me to the dear girls and all your party. God bless you; keep up your spirits, what have you to grieve for? Have you not riches, & the company of the *man* you think most of *in view*. Yours,' &c.

790. A. L. from Lord Nelson to the same. Dated *Victory*, October 31st, 1804. 3 pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'Various circumstances make me rather believe that it will not be possible to land this letter in Spain, and if it is landed, I hardly think it will ever reach Lisbon. However, as I never miss an occasion of writing, I take the chance of saying a few words. I have prepared every thing for my successor, be he who he will, and a few hours will suffice me to give him up the cudgels. The fleet is perfection, not one man ill of any complaint, a great thing to say in these dreadful times of sickness. I have got Mr. Este's son on board—he wants to get to England, but through Spain it is impossible, as no one is allowed to travel from one town to another. I purpose sending him *via* Gibraltar, if we hear more favourable accounts of the fever, and from thence he intends to get to Lisbon, and go home by the packet; but if my superiors comply with my request, I may probably be in England sooner than this letter. [The cutter, I hope, my own Emma, arrived safe, and I have by her endeavoured to make some amends for the cruelty of Mr. Greville. What can he think of himself? However, I shall be happy in sharing my fate with yours. Believe, my dearest Emma, all I would say to you and what I think. But I must keep it to myself. I am expecting every hour the answer from the Admiralty.] The French fleet all well the 29th. Sir William Bolton is at Malta, therefore I have not sent his letter. I have much to tell you on many subjects, and what I can tell the great people (you understand me) will, if I return again, be most useful to them, if not too great to hear what I know. God in heaven bless you, and send us a meeting at dear Merton—a happy one I have no doubt but it will be. My cough is so-so. Love to H[orati]a. &c., &c., &c.'

791. A. L. S. from Mrs. Bolton to the same. Dated 'Oct. 31st' (1804). 2 pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'I did not receive the Box till after I had sent my letter. You say you think I shall like the tippet. Can I do otherways? But indeed I do not like to receive so many presents. Nothing can make me love you better, but so many handsome things as you do for me and mine make me feel uncomfortable. Be assured I have now everything I want, and do not send me more. I shall be afraid you think me a mercenary wretch who has a price, but surely you have a poor opinion of yourself and me. What a happiness will it be to me to see my dear Anna next, to see her carriage anything like Charlotte's, but this I am certain of, that it can not be done without her own determination to persevere in doing everything that is proper. I see by your letter that you continue your house in Clarges St. The Camerons *alias* Benesets are going to Ireland. Mrs. Dashwood and her daughter called here on their way from Newmarket. Susanna says she looks dreadfully. I was ill in bed, so did not see them. Excuse the hastiness and incoherence of this, as I am not well. God bless you. Your,' &c.

792. A. L. from Lord Nelson to the same. Dated *Victory*, November, 1804. 4 pages 4to. [P.]

'I yesterday, my dearest beloved Emma, had the happiness of receiving your [dear, kind, and affectionate] letters of September 16th, 20th, 27th, and October 1st.



I cannot but think that I shall see you before you read this letter ; it goes by way of Lisbon, where I am sending Mr. Este, who is very anxious to get to England. I have been, you will believe, as attentive to him as I could. I am glad that you have had so pleasant a trip into Norfolk. That you have made them all happy I have no doubt, but you have made yourself poor. I do not believe that Pitt will give you a pension any more than Addington, who I supported to the last moment of his ministry. There is no gratitude in any of them ; however, if they do not do it, I will give it you out of Bronté. You will see what effect your Queen's letter has through Castalcicala—a very pretty channel. She has made Roger Dumas Commander-in-Chief, and some other Frenchman something else, against both the King's and Acton's consent, but I fear she is ruling not so well as we could wish. I did not hear from her by the last vessel from Naples ; perhaps she is angry at my ill health and going home for a few months to save my life. The china that we heard so much about never was ordered. [Mr. Elliot, I believe, would not be satisfied anywhere. He has by this time, he writes me, 12 children, and is poor. Geo. Elliot is grown so proud that he scarcely deigns to own them for his cousins, and would scarcely speak to a very fine lad which Mr. Elliot has sent to sea, and is now on board the *Amazon*. Capt. Hardy says Geo. Elliot will turn out an ungrateful wretch, although he may be a good officer.] I have very attentive letters from General Acton, but he has no more the *Power*; the Queen has got clear of him, and never, whilst she rules, will be suffer'd to even enter the kingdom. I send you his private letter, his public one goes to Lord Camden. Gibbs writes me of the difficulty of settling all my affairs at Bronté. He is anxious to remove Mrs. Græffer. I shall allow the 100*l.* a-year and have done with her. If she intends to go to England, I have wrote to Captain Lamb, Agent of Transports, to find her a passage, which he has promised me to do. I shall get nothing from Bronté *but accounts* till next year's crop, and when I let it the rents will be raised one-third at least, and I not benefited till eight years are expired.

'You may tell Davison, and truly, that I have so much fever and head-ache, that if I had the King's ransom I could not write to him ; but remember me kindly to him, and compliments to Haslewood. Love to Mrs. Cadogan, Charlotte, &c.,' &c.

793. A. L. S. from Mary Gibson\* to the same. Dated Tuesday, November 7th, 1804.  $\frac{1}{2}$  page 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'Mrs. Gibson's duty to Lady Hamilton, and am happy to inform her Ladyship that Miss Thompson is very well, and desires her love & a kiss to her Ladyship and to her God-papa. I have sent the receipt, and there now remains due up to Nov<sup>r</sup> 5th 24 pounds two shillings. Your most humble,' &c.

'RECEIPT.

'Nov<sup>r</sup> 5th, 1804.

'RECEIVED of Lady Hamilton the sum of thirty pounds, for lodging and attendance on Miss Thompson.

'£30 0 0

'Received the contents,  
'(Signed) MARY GIBSON.'

794. A. L. S. from Mrs. Bolton to the same. Dated Cranwich, November 7th (1804). 3 pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'I received your letter this morning with two ten pound notes ; I will pay all your little accounts, & when done tell you the particulars. The girls will scarcely save their credit ; at any rate, it will not be worth while to engage with any of the masters, as they can have but four lessons before the holidays, except Eliza may take a few lessons of drawing, as I wish her to improve herself as much as possible in that. By my brother's letter you cannot expect him yet for a week or two, so that if there is anything to be had he will have it before the great S<sup>r</sup> John

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\* Mrs. Gibson was the nurse in whose care Horatia was placed soon after her birth.

Orde gets out. What ship did you get your letters by? Kitty has received some gold chain by a Capt. Palmer, late Lieutenant of the *Childers*. Have you seen Capt. Sutton yet?

'Susanna was at Swaffham last week; it proving a wet evening she stayed the night, & took *half Miss Langford's bed*, so you see all that matter is settled. The Gayons are going to Lynn for the winter. Mr. Johnson is in Devonshire, got leave of absence for two months. Do you ever hear of Mrs. Matcham? I have not this three months. Have sent you a pair of yellow shoes from the Swaffham man in the girls' box to Edmonton. We are but a dull fireside, but such as we are beg you will accept our kindest love and affection to you and your young party. Tell Anne I hope she will not disappoint me; I please myself in thinking of the great improvement there will be in her carriage when I see her next. Believe me to be,' &c.

795. A. L. S. from Alexander Davison to the same. No date (November, 1804?). 2 $\frac{3}{4}$  pages 4to. [P.]

'Two mails are most certainly arrived, and without our friend. I am, with you, equally distressed and disappointed. It must be, as I have before often repeated, owing to Admiral Pole's tedious passage, and as often have I told *you*, he our best friend, never would quit his station until *properly* relieved—you must well recollect my words. We cannot command the winds, and am afraid neither you nor I have influence sufficient with that All Ruling Power to deviate from that which is best for us, tho' however much we at the present moment consider it otherwise. Do not, I entreat you, set me down for a Methodist, for I declare from my soul I am the farthest from it perhaps of any man in his Majesty's dominions. I most firmly believe our friend is, and will be, protected, amidst all dangers and difficulties; reserved for FUTURE comforts, *domestic pleasure*, and TRANSPORTING HAPPINESS.

'Sir William has left you. Left alone to contemplate what? The pleasure of all pleasing considerations—that of receiving the object of your affections. Is it, or is it not?

'Poor me am left alone, and with the exception of a few remaining visitors I do not see a single person. I have told you I cannot set a foot to the ground, and that if I was able to walk you should not be many minutes without my troublesome company. I cannot help it, and unless you will rouse yourself and come and see me, I fear I must despair of being in your presence for some time.

'I have this day quitted my bedroom and reached the adjoining room, tho' carried, for the change of air.

'Mr. Poet Horne was with me when your note came, which for the moment prevented me making an immediate reply. To-morrow, I trust, and depend and pray, will afford us the most joyful tidings. I shall otherwise give up thinking at all. Yours, yours, yours.'

796. A. L. S. from Lady Bolton to the same. Dated Brancaster, November 11th (1804). 3 $\frac{1}{4}$  pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'I fear you will think me negligent in not answering your kind letter before. I should certainly have done it; but as Mrs. Peirson had an intention of writing immediately to you, I waited, as Brancaster would not afford two letters at the same time. Our rents at this place commenced on Thursday. We went to see neighbour Arms, and met the Wards; we had two card tables. To-morrow we are going to Mrs. Ward's. In short, the gaiety of this place would surprize you, but we often regret we cannot pass over the week again that you spent with us. I hear from Susanna that the misunderstanding between her and Miss Langford is quite made up. She denies (and Susanna thinks with truth) having ever found fault with Susanna. Eliza Young acknowledged having said the words in a passion, and they all, Mrs. Young among the number, declared Miss Langford never said anything of the kind. Mrs. Young added that, on the contrary, she was angry with Miss Langford for finding fault with Charlotte. Of course Susanna and Miss L. are very good friends—she slept with her. I know you



will be glad to hear the matter is settled, as Susanna was partial to Miss Langford, and very much hurt at thinking she had said it. She tells me no Swaffham news. I have not seen Mrs. Girdlestone to deliver your kind message, but we expect her in a day or two to bring Miss Bolton home, who has been on visit there for some time.

'My dear little girl grows and improves daily. She can step very prettily and stand by a chair as long as we will let her; she calls papa very nicely. Her aunt Emily is very fond of her, and always tells her maid she is prettier that day than ever she was before. Caroline is quite well, and as entertaining as ever. She wrote you a very long letter yesterday and told you all the news; she is very fond of you indeed. Mrs. Peirson desires me to say she begins to call names, as she was in hopes you would have written to her before this time. I have written thus far without mentioning Lord Nelson, not because I am not anxious to know what you have heard of him, but because I fear you are at this time rather low about him, as I begin to think the Spanish war will detain him, and I fear you will be very much disappointed, as you have made up your mind to expect him, and have prepared everything for his reception; but pray write to me all you have heard, for I feel very anxious indeed on this subject. Give my love to Charlotte and Miss Conner. How kind you are to Eliza and Anne; I conclude they have left you to go to school. I hope to have a letter soon. All here join in affectionate regards to all your fireside. Your affectionate,' &c.

797. A. L. S. from Mrs. Bolton to the same. No date (November 16th, 1804). 3 pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'Thanks, my dear Lady Hamilton, for your long letter; did you know what pleasure they give us, I am sure you would often give them us. I wish what Cap<sup>t</sup> Sutton says of Sir W<sup>m</sup> Bolton may be true; I mean of his being likely to be made Post, for I do not wish to see him home if he could get a frigate *there*. When you next see Cap<sup>t</sup> Sutton ask him if he has not got a parcel for Kate; she writes us her daughter grows prettier every day & says papa very plain, she will soon add *God*.

'I think I have lost both my daughters, for I hear nothing from them; if not gone to school, they must write to Miss Poupard & have the last box I sent with birthday things (as they may take hurt and spoil their cloaks sent with them) unpacked. You, my dear friend, are too good to them; I hope they are fully sensible of your kindness. You will soon now have the Doctor and Mrs. Nelson with you, perhaps before my Lord comes home; your house will then be full, but I shall come to town to see him *and you too*, for Mrs. Matcham will certainly be there, and where they are I can be, so do not take any trouble about me, for be assured tho' we *sleep* not with you, it will be the only time we shall be *asunder*.

'My sister says all thoughts of going to Husum are over; she shall be glad to see the money back again, she is enjoying the thoughts of again meeting all together; she says her spirits are never so good as when with her near connexions and *friends*. She says a *certain* Lady\* is at Bath so *condescendingly humble* to those who formerly she would not *notice*, all to be *thought amiable*. Susanna is not returned from Swaffham, where she went to the ball last night. Give my kind love to Mrs. Cadogan, thank her for her kindness to my girls; they must be ungratefull if they did not love her. Love to Charlotte and Miss Conner. I have sent a brace of hares by this day's coach. God bless you. Ever your,' &c.

798. A. L. S. from Mrs. Matcham to the same. Dated No. 2 Portland Place (Bath), Saturday, December 1st (1804). 3 pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'Many thanks, my dear Lady Hamilton, for your kindness in writing, which is more than I deserve for my seeming neglect; but you may suppose I have not much spare time for writing when I tell you that we are always fifteen in family, which has been no little business to settle in our new habitation, & to say the

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\* Lady Nelson.

truth I am not very stout. God knows what are we to hope for with respect to our dear friend's return at present or not. I suppose it will be right for him to remain for a little longer to gain a few dollars, though I cannot help wishing he was safe at home; we are, as you may suppose, very anxious about him. *The Lady* is, I believe, at Bath, but too great a distance for us ever to see her. We have been at a *ball*, a *concert*, and to a *play* the week, but she was not at either. My only desire is that we shall not be in the same room, & circumstances are *now* so well understood by our *friends*, that I don't think it likely we shall ever meet her. We called on the Tysons yesterday, she had been in the hot bath & he has got a severe cold. I believe they now wish to buy a house ready built, and not *speculate* in building. We shall be truly happy to meet you all at Merton, & it will be a joyful summons to meet my dear brother in good health. We cannot help wishing for that happiness once more in spite of the *golden ships*, for they are not to be had without hard blows. Cap<sup>t</sup> Bowen dined with us last week, he is as anxious as ever to be with our friend. With our best wishes to all your party, believe me to be,' &c.

799. A. L. S. from Captain Staines\* to Lord Nelson. Dated *Cameleon*, Trieste, December 5th, 1804. 4 pages 4to. [P.]

'I am extremely sorry to say that my visit to the Adriatic has not been attended with that success, which I am perfectly persuaded it was your Lordship's good wishes it should be; but, notwithstanding my failure of making captives, the arrival of his Majesty's sloop *Cameleon* in these seas, in combination with other circumstances, has certainly tended to rid this coast most completely of the numerous French privateers which have lately infested it. The *Anson* and *Bittern* having been in the Adriatic just previous to the *Cameleon's* arrival, and the liberation of the British ship taken by one of the French privateers, with costs against the captors, are the circumstances which I allude to, independent of the fear which they might have entertained of our retaliating by capturing them under the same circumstances, in defiance of neutral protection. The effect of that combination is not only proved by my not having seen, or even having heard of, one of those depredators since my arrival in this port, but also by the late arrival of the *Morgiana*, with a convoy for Trieste; which, although it was separated for several days among the small islands, and on the coast of Istria (which was most particularly the scene of their depredations), yet they all arrived in safety at this port without any annoyance or the least appearance of hostile intention.

'My endeavour has been to search into all the small islands, and in every other part wherein I thought it most probable they might still be lurking, but all without effect. I am perfectly well convinced, however, that your Lordship's liberality of sentiment will not for a moment allow my failure in this pursuit to be attributed to inertness or deficiency of exertion on my part, and I am also well aware of the good construction which your Lordship has ever been in the habit of putting on circumstances, although wearing the most unfavourable appearances: but I am still very anxious to have everything of that nature perfectly undoubted, and much more so, to retain your Lordship's good opinion, which constitutes the summit of my ambition, and the most effective spur to my endeavours.

'I am waiting here, my Lord, since the 29th of November, from an application which the Consul has made to me to convoy three English vessels to Venice, which will be ready in two days, and from thence I proceed immediately to Malta, with the liberated ship under my convoy, she being ready laden for that

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\* Captain, afterwards Sir Thomas, Staines, 1774-1830, entered the navy in 1790, served under Nelson, became a Commander in 1801, received post rank in 1806, was employed in the Mediterranean and distinguished himself greatly in the action in the Bay of Naples in 1806, after which he was knighted and received a pension of £300 a year on account of the loss of his arm. In his will he left £1000 to Sir William Bolton to be paid at his wife's death. That lady married again in a year Mr. George Gunning, who on her death, six weeks after marriage, refused to fulfil the conditions of Sir Thomas's will, which gave rise to legal proceedings.



destination. I am to continue in quarantine at this place, from having had communication with the island of Lissa, and many other parts which are not at this moment considered in liberal pratique.

'The Mareschino which your Lordship expressed a wish for, I have procured in four cases of two dozen bottles each, the bottle containing about a pint and a half, which I shall take the earliest opportunity of forwarding to England. May I request your Lordship will do me the honour of presenting my best respects to Lady Hamilton, which liberty I am induced to take from her Ladyship having been a shipmate of mine in the *Foudroyant*. I have the honour to be,' &c.

800. A. L. S. from Mrs. Bolton to Lady Hamilton. Dated 'Cranwich, December 11th (1804), Mr. Bolton's birthday, 52.' 2 pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'I rejoice with you, my dear friend, in the thoughts of so soon seeing my Lord. I trust his health is not so bad as we at a distance fancy he is. England & the sight of his *dearest friends* will, I hope, fully re-establish it. Tom is home, and desires me to say he wrote to your Ladyship a week back; you will receive from him, in the course of a day or two, a basket of dried apples. Kate had a letter from her husband dated the beginning of October; he says he is to be left behind, & my Lord says when he comes home he will endeavour to get him the step. Lady B. is at Wells under Mr. Girdlestone's care, as she by no means get her health and strength so fast as we could wish. Give my love to the *Vice-Dean* & his lady; all here join best wishes to you & your circle. God send us a merry meeting. Believe me,' &c.

801. Document from Lambton Este.\* Dated 'On board the *Fox* Cutter under Quarantine near Liverpool, December 18th, 1804.' 3 pages 4to. [P.]

'After I had passed some time on board the *Victory*, Lord Nelson delivered dispatches to my care, with his certificate 'that in the whole fleet under his command not one man was confined by any sickness whatever.'

'Nov. 6.—Lord Nelson directed the *Termagant* sloop to proceed with me to Lisbon. All communication with the land & with every vessel was invariably avoided.

'Nov. 18.—Off Cape St. Vincent the *Termagant* fell in with the *Swiftsure* from England. Sir John Orde, finding the certificate from Lord Nelson, gave permission to board, and inform'd us of the *Fox* cutter being on her way from the Straits to England.

'Nov. 19.—Came up with the *Fox*, and I took my passage on board. The *Fox*, though from the Straits had not any communication with the land. On Nov. 16 the *Fox* had anchored, *not* at Gibraltar, but *at a distance* from the Rock, in the offing. The dispatches from Sir T. Trigge were sent alongside. They were fumigated in the boat alongside, and when thrown on deck of the cutter, they were fumigated again.

'Nov. 17.—The *Fox* had sailed from thence, and without communication with the land or with any vessel till she met the *Termagant* as before-mentioned.

'Dec. 4.—The *Fox* made land near Holyhead.

'Dec. 8.—Came to anchor near Liverpool. There the *Fox* is under quarantine, but in perfect health. Sickness there is none; there has not been any.

'May I, with all due deference, state these circumstances? And, solicitous for the duties with which I am charged, may I venture to ask such consideration as by better judgments may be thought fit?

(Signed) LAMBTON ESTE.

'Private Secretary to the late  
'Consul-General to Egypt.'

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\* The document is in the handwriting of Dr. Este's father, the Rev. C. Este.

802. A. L. from Lord Nelson to Lady Hamilton. Dated *Victory*, December 19th, 1804. 3¼ pages 4to., with Superscription. [H.]

'Since I wrote to you by the *Ambuscade*, when I was every moment expecting the arrival of the great Sir John Orde, I have received a letter from him, telling me that he was in the chief command of a squadron outside the Streights, &c. &c. &c. He has treated my ships a little hardly; but never mind, he will get all the money and your poor Nelson all the hard blows. Am I to take this act as a proof of Lord Melville's regard for me? But I submit patiently, but I feel. I have not had a scrap of pen from England 90 days this day; it is rather long in these critical times. I send this through Mr. T. at Naples, and as it will be read by the French and many others, I don't chuse to say anything more than I care for all the world knowing, that I *love you* more than anything in this world, and next my d<sup>r</sup> H<sup>a</sup>. I keep everything packed up, and two hours would finish everything I can have to do with my successor, who must certainly be near at hand; or is Sir John, after he has got riches, to come here and get glory? I have certainly much to arrange when I get home, and the situation of Mrs. B<sup>n</sup> shall have serious consideration; but such a place as Tyson's would very soon involve Mr. B. in difficulties. However, I will ask, and I fear shall be refused. My cough is still very, very bad, and I ought at this moment to have been snug at Merton; but I look forward for that day with much pleasure, and please God it will arrive very soon. You may tell Lord Melville that the French fleet was safe the 12th December, but my reporter says that they are certainly embarking troops; but I hope to meet them and to realize the fond wishes of my country. May God Almighty keep you prays ever yours & only yours,' &c.

'P.S.—Remember me kindly to good Mrs. Cadogan, Charlotte, Miss Conner, and all our friends. I wish I could be with you all this Xmas, which I fully expected.'

803. A. L. S. from the same to the Hon. C. Boyle. Dated *Victory*, December 30th, 1804. 1 page 4to. [P.]

'I am most exceeding hurt at your not having joined the fleet, as you must know my distress for frigates, and I am much displeased with Captain Mowbray\* for interfering with your orders. I sincerely hope this will not find you at Gib<sup>r</sup>; but should it, unfortunately, I desire you will not lose one moment in joining the fleet.'

804. A. L. S. from Mr. Davison to Lady Hamilton. Dated 'Sunday Evening,' January 6th, 1805. 3 pages 4to. [P.]

'I presume you have received letters from your dear Lord; but should that not be case, I cannot delay a moment in acquainting you that he was *quite* well on the 4th of December. His private letter to Lord Melville I have heard read, and which gives as good an account of himself as you could wish. Adm<sup>l</sup> Campbell is come home in consequence of bad health, and Sir Rich<sup>d</sup> Bickerton is but so-so. Your dear Lord says he cannot afford to be ill. I was rejoiced to know he was so well, and writes in great spirits. I had a conversation about yourself, and am sure it will afford you great satisfaction to know how much Lord Melville interests himself in your favour. He tells me he has spoken to Mr. Pitt of the propriety of your having a pension settled upon you of 500*l.* per annum, and that he will speak to him again very shortly about it. I asked Lord Melville if I might say as much to you. He immediately said, "Yes, certainly." He spoke very handsomely of you, and of your services in favor of this country when in Naples. It is needless to repeat the just compliments he paid to *our*

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\* Richard Hussey Mowbray, afterwards Sir Richard Hussey Hussey, 1776-1843, entered the navy in 1789, received post rank in 1797, and was on active service during all the war with the French. He attained the rank of Rear-Admiral in 1821 and Vice-Admiral in 1837. In 1832 he assumed the surname and arms of Hussey, on succeeding to the estates of his cousin, Admiral Sir R. Hussey Bickerton.



gallant Nelson, who is reinforced with four ships-of-the-line, and now *must* make his fortune. Spain has declared war, and *now* will here be announced publicly, I presume, on Tuesday.

'Sir John (General) Moore\* is returned from Portugal, and looks better than he did ten years ago.

'Lord Melville told me that he would dispatch a cutter or two for the Mediterranean, so that you must immediately set to work and write your dispatches. I shall begin mine to-morrow morning. Yours,' &c.

805. A. L. S. from Mrs. Bolton to the same. Dated 'Tuesday Noon' (early in January, 1805). 2½ pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'I am glad, my dear Lady Hamilton, you have in some degree reconciled yourself for my Lord's absence till the spring; then how beautifull will Merton appear. He will come with y<sup>e</sup> *bushell* of dollars, & so rich, that I hope and trust, unless he is particularly called for, he will not go out ag<sup>n</sup>, and then, with your good nursing, his health will be quite re-established. I hope this active scene will make him better, for depend on it, his disorder is on his spirits. Do let me know as soon as you hear anything. How was the D<sup>r</sup>? In high glee, I should suppose; as rents were just come in, his purse must be full. We expected him in Norfolk, as it was reported he was to do duty at Hilborrow on Xmas Day. Mr. Bolton is at Norwich, which, I suppose, you have heard of by a Turkey. Pray did you ever receive a basket of dried apples which Tom sent you? he is always enquiring if Lady Hamilton likes them. Horace Dashwood has not yet broke loose; at least, *De Grey*, as he call his father, would not let him appear at the last Swaffham ball. Ely is much altered since the death of poor Mrs. Dashwood. Mrs. Tyson has invited Edward Bolton. I feel myself much obliged by your recommendation. Mrs. Matcham I never hear from; do you? When the year gets up, I hope to have the pleasure of visiting you. I shall be very happy, but at the present the weather is too cold for me to move. I am writing to Eliza.'

806. A. L. S. from Mrs. Matcham to the same. Dated Bath, January 20th, 1805. 3 pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'I have availed myself of the offer of Mrs. Voller to take a letter for me, to say that I think it long since we have heard from you. I was in hopes we should [have] spent this Christmas at dear Merton, but I think now we must look forward to our meeting in the summer. As you have had no letters from our dear friend, most likely this Spanish war will detain him for some time longer; but if it pleases God to give him health, he may now have an opportunity of adding money to glory. We were in the same room with Lady N—— a few nights since, for the first time since she came to Bath. She had then an opportunity of showing her insolence, as far as looks could express, so I was told by some friends of mine, who said she look as I passed her in that *scornful way* which could not but be noticed by all that saw her. But be assured there is a strong party against my dear brother, whom we know to be all goodness and liberality. Different tales are told in different partys, but I think a time must come when everything will appear in a true light. I had a letter from Mrs. Bolton a few days since, to say, that change of air, and if Bath waters could be taken, it was the only thing that was likely to save her daughter, Lady Bolton. I beg'd her to lose no time in getting her here, therefore I suppose you will see them on their way through London. As she is young, I should hope good nursing and change of scene would restore her to health. I can only say that nothing we can do to make her comfortable shall be omitted. Our youngest little boy is very indifferent, I believe with his teeth, but as he cannot tell where his disorder is, it is always distressing to see a little infant in pain; he is so delicate, we are always under an alarm for him. With the hope of hearing you are all well, and spending a merry Christmas,' &c.

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\* Sir John Moore, 1761–1809, the eminent military commander. In 1808 he was appointed to the command of an army in Spain, and was killed under the walls of Corunna in 1809.

807. Copy of Letter from Lord Nelson to Sir John Acton. Dated  
 'Victory, standing into the Gulph of Cagliari,' January 26th, 1805.  
 2½ pages 4to.

'It has blown a heavy gale of wind from the S.S.W. until this morning, when I am off the Island of Sarpentari, from the information of the French frigates standing into the Gulf of Cagliari, I sent my two frigates to watch the enemy's motions or to get me some information of their movements. One is just returned with *no* information; but as she has not communicated with Cagliari, I am obliged to send her back. If the *Vice Roy* knows nothing of them, I shall push direct for Palermo in case Sicily should be their object, and I shall, the moment I can get hold of my other frigate, send her to Naples, with orders for her to join me off the Faro of Messina. I shall then be at hand to cover Messina in case they should pass round Cape Passero, or to proceed to Naples in case they are in that Bay. You will believe my anxiety; I have neither ate, drank, or slept, with any comfort, since last Sunday.

'*Ten o'clock.* I have just spoke a vessel which left the Gulf of Palma last night; the enemy's fleet was not there. I hope to have my answer from Cagliari by four o'clock, and I hope to be with you to-morrow. Pray, Sir John, tell the Captain all you know. Captain Baynton is an excellent officer, and can tell you as much as I can. Excuse my hasty scrawl, but I am,' &c.

'I hope the Governor of Augusta will not give up the Port to the French fleet; but if he does, I shall go in and attack them, for I consider the destruction of the enemy's fleet of so much consequence, that I would willingly have half of mine burnt to effect their destruction. I am in a fever. God send we may find them.'

808. A. L. S. from J. W. Hillyard to Lady Hamilton. Dated Plymouth, February 3rd, 1805. 2½ pages 4to., with Superscription and Seal. [P.]

'I have the honour, my dear Lady Hamilton, to acknowledge the receipt of your letter relative to Mr. Conner. I have, in consequence of it, given him a week or ten days' leave of absence, and I hope your indulgence will have a good effect. It would give me great pleasure if I could inform you that Mr. Connor is what I wish him to be, in point of correctness in conduct. He is not so, and I shall feel particularly obliged if your Ladyship will admonish him to be good, and to endeavour to prove worthy the patronage of his good friend, Lord Nelson. I think a little threat on your part to abandon him if he does not behave well may have a good effect. I lament that you are still anxious relative to his Lordship's return. Reports here are so various, that I know not what to think. I am still ignorant of my destination, but hope it will be to follow the fortunes of my best and most respected friend. Offer my kindest regards to my two young friends who honoured me with a remembrance, and believe me,' &c.

809. A. L. S. from Lord Nelson to Mr. Samuel Briggs. Dated *Victory*, February 4th, 1805. 4 pages 4to. [P.]

'If the French are arrived before me, you will of course not receive this letter; if they are not arrived, it is my opinion, they are dispersed and crippled in the bad weather they have experienced since their leaving Toulon.

'I have wrote to the Governor of Alexandria to be upon his guard against a visit from those gentry, for as a week ago they had not either arrived at Sardinia, Naples, or Sicily, I still think their destination is either Egypt or the Morea. I may chance to fall in with them on my return, for I shall pursue the route I think they will take, but as the Governor is now put upon his guard, I hope he will take every means in his power for the defence of Alexandria, and in particular to have vessels ready to sink to prevent the entrance of the French fleet into the old port until the obstructions were removed, which would give me time to get at them.

'The French fleet sailed on the 18th Jan<sup>y</sup>, with from 8000 to 10,000 troops



embarked. On the 19th they had a very heavy gale of wind to the westward of Corsica and Sardinia. One ship of eighty guns put into Ajaccio crippled—three others were seen steering for St. Fiorenzo. On the 21st some of them were seen off the south end of Sardinia, but I know that on the 28th they had neither been in Sardinia or Naples, and I was at Messina on the 30th, therefore they are either returned to Toulon, or are, I fear, arrived in Egypt, but even in that case, if Alexandria is properly defended, it cannot have yet fallen into their hands, or their fleet got into the port. If the enemy is not here I shall not remain one moment on the coast, you will therefore by the return of the boat, give me all the information you have. I shall be much obliged to you to send my letter when opportunity offers to Major Misset at Cairo. I am, &c.

810. A. Doc. S. from the same to Captain Cracraft,\* H.M.S. *Anson*.  
Dated 'Victory at sea, February 18th, 1805.' 3 pages 4to. [P.]

'ORDERS.

'The victuallers and store-ship are to proceed without one moment's loss of time to the Gulf of Palma, and there wait my arrival or they receive my farther orders.

'If the *Camel* is outside the harbour and ready to proceed, she must, with the *Ætna* or some other small ship belonging to the Malta station, take charge of the convoy to Palma.

'The cutter from England must join me without loss of time, as I pass the island.

'The *Renown* and frigates must do the same, standing off in the direction you think the fleet will pass, which, with the present northerly wind, will not probably be within 7 or 10 leagues to the northward of the island. Should the wind come southerly, so that I should not be able to get with the fleet off Malta, I shall probably pass the Faro of Messina, but Palma must be considered as the general rendezvous, although the fleet will probably, if the winds permit, go off Toulon before I proceed to Palma.

'Captain Cracraft is directed to give the necessary orders for the direction of such ships as may be at Malta and off that port, as mentioned in this order, and should any staff-officer or senior captain to Captain Cracraft be at Malta, he is hereby directed to put these orders into execution.'

811. A. L. S. from J. W. Hillyard to Lady Hamilton. Dated Plymouth,  
March 2nd, 1805. 3½ pages 4to., with Superscription and Seal.  
[P.]

'With extreme sorrow, my dear Lady Hamilton, I sit down to address you on a subject that I am sure will call forth your sympathy and seriously wound your feelings. Poor Charles, within the last two days, has appeared to have evident symptoms of derangement, which last night increased to so alarming a height that the Commanding officer on board, with the advice of the surgeon, was obliged to confine him and bind his hands.

'I am just returned from the hospital, where I have taken him. I shall receive the physician's and surgeon's report and opinions to-morrow, which I shall immediately transmit to your Ladyship. From what I have seen, and the hasty opinion the surgeon formed from a short interview, I am apprehensive that he will not be able to proceed with us, as I am in momentary expectation of my orders.

'On the subject of care and attention to the unfortunate youth, your Ladyship may be perfectly at ease. The gentlemen at the hospital are eminent in their profession, and *my* friends will take care that he wants nothing. It behoves us all, my dearest madam, to bear our share of afflictions in this life with fortitude. Few are exempt from them, and I can judge of the feelings this letter will excite when its contents are communicated to Mr. Conner's relatives. Assure them that nothing on my part shall be omitted which can possibly tend to the restora-

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\* Captain William Edward Cracraft, 1767-1810, afterwards Commander of the Sea Fencibles on the coast of Sussex.

tion of his reason, and that I can vouch for the attention of my friends should I sail before his recovery.

‘On the subject of his debts, the best possible arrangement shall be made, and as they are all transferred to Mr. Dawe, a respectable mercer of Plymouth Dock, he will receive the same by instalments as most convenient to his friends. Should I sail at a short notice, Mr Dawe will be happy to communicate every particular to your Ladyship, and to receive your directions as to his future conduct towards Mr C——. I hope you do not allow every idle rumour to wound your feelings respecting his Lordship. He is good, and Providence will, I trust, continue to protect him.’

812. A. L. S. from Lady Bolton to the same. Dated Bath, March 10th (1805). 3½ pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

‘How much obliged to you we are, dear Lady Hamilton, for thinking of us, and writing to us so often. Mrs Nelson’s letter I have enclosed; we could not send it back by return of post, as it was Saturday. The letter amused us very much. Mrs Matcham says she should have been quite delighted to have seen the Dr, he looked, no doubt, very great; no person could have enjoyed the great pomp more than he did. I had a letter from Charles Connor to acknowledge the receipt of the letter I sent him to carry to Sir William. A few days back he wrote me he had been very ill, but was then getting better. He was at the Naval Hospital. He desires duty, &c., to you, and love to his sisters. I am much better than when my sister wrote you last. My appetite is better—that is to say, I do not eat more, but it is not so much forced upon my stomach as it was when I was with you. I hope, when I return to town, I shall be able to enjoy the society of my friends, which I really could not when I was there last. When you go down to Merton, I hope you will not forget to remember all our party particularly to Mrs Cadogan. I hope this fine weather will quite recover her, and make her very strong. Tell my mother we had a letter from Rebecca last week, she is much better from taking a milk diet. She had not tried it but one week and was nearly well. They had heard from Mr Tom Bolton. My uncle much the same. Mrs Fitch has got another little girl. Edward was still at home. Mrs Peirson and her little girl were still at Wells, the family there much the same. My sister would have written to thank you for your letters, but, as I found myself tolerable this morning and had a great wish to write to you, I prevailed on her to resign the pen to me. I am at home, quite alone, all the party are gone to church. I am the only heathen among them, but it is so far off I cannot walk, and I dislike a chair, it is, I think, a very fatiguing motion. I have seen Tom Tit once, she called in her carriage at Lady Charlotte Drummond’s, who lives next door. The lady was not at home, but she got out of her carriage, walked as stiff as a poker about half-a-dozen steps, turned round, got in again. What this manœuvre was for I cannot tell, unless to show herself. She need not have taken so much pains, if nobody wanted to see her more than I do. She is stiffer than ever.

‘All the party desire I will give their love to you and all their friends in Clarges Street. God bless you, prays your,’ &c.

813. A. L. (incomplete) from Lord Nelson to the same. Dated *Victory*, March 30th, 1805. 4 pages 4to. [P.]

‘Your letters, my [own dear beloved] dear Emma, by the *Ambuscade*, to February 15th, came to me on the 26th; and now Louis is arrived, I shall, the moment I think that the French fleet will not come to sea for the summer, put myself into the *Superb*, from which my things never have been taken from the time I expected the great and rich Sir John Orde. I fix in my own mind to start May 1st, for if they are not at sea in April, I think they will lay fast, unless a very superior fleet should come into the Mediterranean, when I am readier to start from England than being here, at least for actual service, but keep my intended movements to yourself, for folks like to chatter. You are sure, my Emma, that I am as anxious to see you as you can be to see me [for I love and revere you beyond all this world, because I feel you deserve it of me]; therefore I shall say no more upon that subject [but shall wait to give you much more



efficacious proofs of my love than can be convey'd in a letter]. I admire dear Horatia's writing. I think her hand will soon be like her dear mother's, and if she is but as clever, I shall be content. You may rely that when I come home, I shall do what I can for Mrs. Bolton, but before I can fix a sum I must see what I have. At all events I shall be able to keep Tom at College without any expense to his father; that I will certainly do, and I must economise in something at home. My letter to Lord Melville was strong about Mr. Bolton, but I have had no answer; in short, I never had any interest.

['I am at this moment not a little vext with Sir W<sup>m</sup> Bolton; he is lazy, or he might have been worth £30,000, but he would not look after it. I never had such a chance, or I should have been a very rich man. I am more sorry for his family than himself. I have appointed him Post into the *Amphitrite*, and her and the *Renown* are prevented sailing for England from Gibraltar by waiting for him, and when I am likely to see him I can't tell. I am sorely vext; he is a very good young man, but he never will do any good for himself, he has no activity. I move the whole fleet with ten times the rapidity than he does his brig. He might have been very rich and independent; this has vext me and all his friends here, for every one likes him as a good man. You will agree with me this is but a negative character.']

814. A. L. S. from the same to the same. Dated *Victory*, April 4th, 1805. 3 pages 4to. [P.]

'My Emma, [and God forbid you should belong to any one else, that goose,] Sir W. Bolton, has lost his frigate, *Amphitrite*, and perhaps a month or two's rank as Post, but I have waited three weeks for his joining me and the service will not admit of my waiting any longer. Luckily for him, Lord Melville has wrote me that he will send out a post-ship for him, and therefore I hope he will suffer no harm, but it vexes me. [The time draws near, my Emma, my love, my everything that's dear . . . and that we shall be happier, perhaps, if that is possible, than ever, and] unless the French fleet should be at sea, or a certainty of its putting to sea, I shall move to the *Superb* on the day I have before told you. [I need not say more except that I shall fly to Merton, dear, dear, Merton.] I shall take care not to speak any thing which may subject me to quarantine, therefore I hope a return of post, or at least two, will liberate me, [(I must not say that)] for my liberation makes me *all, all yours*. I dare not send a little letter, for what with sneaking and cutting all would be read. But let them read this, that I love you beyond any woman in this world, and next our dear Horatia. How I long to settle what I intend upon her, and not leave her to the mercy of any one, or even to any foolish thing I may do in my old age. Adieu for a very short time, and may the Heavens bless you, and give us a happy meeting & very, very soon, prays your faithful, &c.

815. A. L. S. from Mr. Thomas Bolton to the same. Dated Cranwich, April 16th, 1805. 1 page 4to. [P.]

'I am infinitely obliged for your kind letter as a proof of your willingness to assist me upon all occasions, but at the same time it would be wrong in me not to consider the many demands you have. It has long been an uneasiness to me, that I have not been able to pay the £100 I borrowed of you before; but I hope for better times, when I will repay with thanks.

'I was obliged to borrow £100, and am in hopes to be able to get another £100, w<sup>h</sup> I am in hopes will carry me on till Mich<sup>s</sup>, but if contrary to my expectation, I should not be able to do this, I may then take the liberty to apply to you, &c.

'Emma is well.'

816. A. L. S. from Lord Nelson to Mr. McGrath. Dated *Victory*, May 6th, 1805. 2 pages 4to. [P.]

'I send you Dr. Harness's letter relative to Mr. Gardner's appointment to

Gibraltar Hospital. I am not only sorry for your disappointment, but also, that however able Mr. Gardner may be, I well know you would have been an invaluable acquisition to the Rock. However, I hope you will soon get some other appointment equally pleasant, and tell me if one of those hospital (posts?) in England would be acceptable, or what you would like, and I will try what I can do, being, dear sir, with the greatest esteem, your,' &c.

'I have been, and am still very, very unwell, with my sciatic complaint—return Dr. Harness's letter.'

817. A. L. S. from Lady Bolton to Lady Hamilton. Dated Bath, May 12th, 1805. 3 pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'We all congratulate you most sincerely on having received accounts of Lord Nelson, as we well know how great your anxiety has been on this occasion. Indeed, it has been an anxious time for all his friends. I should certainly have written to you before, but I had nothing pleasant to say, and was willing to stay till I heard some good news. I hope I shall hear from you soon to tell us if you have letters, and what date. I know not when I shall hear, I begin now to expect letters from Sir William, and to be rather impatient for them, but the accounts my mother has written to me have made me very happy. I have been ill all this week, and am not yet well, with a very bad cold, nothing can be more general than they are here, everybody has one; the weather is so unsettled, I fear you have all felt the effects of it. I was very happy to hear from Mr Matcham Mrs Cadogan was quite well. I hope she will not feel any inconvenience from its being such changeable weather. Mr Matcham tells us Merton looked very beautiful, he thought you had made wonderful improvements. I cannot help thinking how delighted Lord Nelson will be with it. Do you think you have any likelihood of seeing him at present. I was very much vexed to hear from my mother such bad accounts of Mr Tom Bolton, but it is what we have long expected. I hope, after the first shock is over, Mrs Bolton will consider it a happy release. We are, however, very anxious to hear how he is, and whether they consider him in immediate danger, and whether my father still remains at Akenham. I find you have again visited Woolwich. I hope you liked your visit better this time than you did before, and that you had more to eat, &c.

'Mrs Matcham and Susanna unite in love to all your party with yours, &c

'I have taken the liberty of enclosing a letter for Sir William, which I should be very much obliged to you to send for me. We are much obliged to my mother for her two letters. Let us hear from you soon, if you are engaged make Eliza write,' &c.

818. A. L. S. from Sir William Bolton to the same. Dated H. M. S. *Guerrier*, Gibraltar Mole, June 27th (1805). 2 pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'May I entreat your Ladyship's assistance and advice, how to act in order to get clear of the *Guerrier*, my situation in her is exceedingly disagreeable, and as Sir Richard Bickerton has nothing to do with her (the *Guerrier* being under Adm<sup>l</sup> Knight's\* orders) the hopes I had of Sir Richard's assistance are vanished.

'If I knew it would not be against Lord Nelson's wishes, I would ere this have written home to be superceded, but I think right to wait till I hear from his Lordship how I ought to act.

'It is some time since I have received any letters from England, but from Capt. Mackenzie, just appointed to the *Childers* by Sir Rich<sup>d</sup> B., I am happy to hear your Ladyship & all my friends are well. I have written to my dear Kate by the *Amphitrite*, which ship carries this mail.

'Sir Richard Bickerton is gone up the Mediterranean with four ships of the

\* Admiral Sir John Knight, 1748–1831, entered the navy in 1758, was in the action off Martinique, and received post rank in 1781; was promoted to be Rear-Admiral in 1801, Vice-Admiral in 1805, and Admiral in 1813. He was made a K.C.B. in 1815.



line. All the sloops & frigates that were under Adm<sup>l</sup> Knight's command, are distributed between the squadrons of Sir Richard & Adm<sup>l</sup> Collingwood. The former & Adm<sup>l</sup> Knight are at variance; my Admiral imagining Sir Richard carries a high hand. He has, by an order of the Admiralty's, appointed Capt. Mackenzie to the *Childers* in the room of his son; this makes Adm<sup>l</sup> Knight rather sore. Having recommended myself & my affairs to your Ladyship's protection, I feel perfectly satisfied. Your friendship for Lord Nelson reaches to his friends. I hope soon to hear of Lord Nelson, and of his success.'

819. A. L. S. from Miss Bolton to the same. Dated Bath, July 7th, 1805.  
3 pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'We are all anxiety, as you may readily conceive, for news. You are, we know, even more anxious than we are. We often talk of you, and wish ourselves with you, that we might talk it over. I know you are by far too anxious to write to any of us, but we beg that if you hear any report that is likely to be authentic you will let Eliza write it to us. I do not ask for you to write if you have letter from my Lord, that I am sure we may depend upon your doing without being asked, for you will be anxious to communicate good news, which it will be to us to hear he is in good health, in good spirits I am sure he is, if he has any chance of coming up with the French fleet. We hear hundreds of reports, but, I think, without any foundation. We see no papers, therefore we hear only vague rumours, that are even worse than hearing them from the papers. I am happy to find he is in the right track, for I am certain to have been otherwise would have made him very uneasy. My mother wrote us you talked of going to Southend by the 10<sup>th</sup> of this month, but this news will, I am sure, keep you in town, that you may be as near as possible to the place where you are likely to hear anything. I am glad anything detains you, as we now hope to have the pleasure of seeing you in our way through town, which we had almost despaired of. My aunt has had no letter from Mr. Matcham since the 16<sup>th</sup> of June, he was then well, but did not appear to have got at all forward in the settlement of his business. My aunt is anxious to hear, for his absence is so much longer than she expected that she feels it very much. However, on the whole he is very well and is grown fat. The poor little sick boy is just the same as ever; he is like a skeleton, but since he has held out so long, I hope he will recover. The young one, William Alexander, is a fine baby and goes on well. We hear that Tom Tit has been very ill, and been attended by two physicians. She is now, however, got quite well; she looks shockingly, really, and very old. M<sup>rs</sup> Matcham often wishes she was in Heaven; we join and make no doubt we have your good wishes on the occasion. She is still in Bath. Kate goes on very well except in walking, of which she still makes a miserable hand.

'Remember us to M<sup>rs</sup> Cadogan. Merton must be charming now. All join in love to Charlotte, Miss Connor, and Eliza,' &c.

'P.S.—Beg Eliza to write very soon; I will write to her the middle of this week.'

820. A. L. S. from Mrs. Bolton to the same. Dated Cranwich, July 16th, 1805. 3 pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'On my arrival at home last night, I received two letters from you. How good you were in writing to me. Believe me, myself and the whole party at Brancaster participated in your joy at my dear brother's *victory*, I must call it, since he has done so much, or more than any action could have done. Has he not saved the West Indies? His name is so terrible to the French navy, that they dare not face him. That I have the happiness of calling such a man my brother! Where is the man who would have been so active or done so much? I hope now we shall soon see him at home. God grant it! I saw the D<sup>r</sup> and Mrs. Nelson last night in my way through Hilborow. Madame was nursing her foot, which was rather better.

'A letter from Lady Bolton to-day says she shall leave Bath in a few days; but I doubt, according to Mrs. Nelson's account, not time enough to find you in town, though they think much of it. If you are not, will you permit them to have

a bed in Clarges Street? Will you be kind enough to give them a line, or make Eliza do it, to tell your plans a little. Tom returned with us from Brancaster. If you do not leave town so soon, we shall be in town on Saturday morning; but if you do go, he may as well stay here till Mr. Lancaster's vacation is finished, as his own holidays are not over, and he has got his cousin with him. I hope you will write to me frequently when you get to South End. May you have a pleasant excursion, and soon be called back by the arrival of my Lord. God bless you, and give us all a happy meeting once more. Yours, &c.

'Tell Eliza to order Mr. Rowland to make a wig like mine, with her hair; it is for Mrs. Pierson. It will be 5s. 6d.'

821. A. L. S. from Mrs. Cadogan to the same. Dated Merton, July 18th (1805). 1 page 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'I shall be very glad to see you to-morrow, and I think you quite right for going into the country to keep yourself quiet for a while. My dear Emma, Cribb is quite distress for money, would be glad if you could bring him the 13*l*. he paid, that he paid for the taxes, to pay the mowers. My dear Emma, I have got the baker's and butcher's bills cast up; they come to 1 hundred pounds, seventeen shillings. God Almighty bless you, my dear Emma, and grant us good news from our dear Lord.'

'My dear Emma, bring me a bottle of ink and a box of wafers.

'Sarah Reynolds thanks you for your goodness to invite her to Sadler's Wells.'

822. A. L. S. from Mrs. Bolton to the same. Dated Cranwich, August 1st, 1805. 3 pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'This is the victorious first of August. I hope you are enjoying it with your friends at Southend; nothing to be done in Norfolk as usual. The ladies in Swaffham did vote for a ball, and was in hopes, as the Dr and Mrs. Nelson were in the country, they should have succeeded; but no such thing. We have this instant heard the news of Sir Robert Calder's action with the combined fleet. How vexed I am my Lord was not in at the death. I am sure he has had a long chase after them. I hope he will not make himself unhappy that he was not there, though I acknowledge I think the man who has watched them for two years ought to have gained the laurels and riches. How do you find yourself? I still hope he may pick up some of the stragglers. I find you have had letters from my Lord. Where was he? I was in hopes you would have favoured me with a line at that time. My daughters beg I will thank you in their name for the boon of your house in Clarges Street. Kate is certainly better, though not very strong, but they came to Cranwich in one day from town. She did not find her little girl so well as I wished, she had a bad fever and sore throat; but Mr. Helsham has taken his leave to-day. I see Mr. Comyns now at the gate, but I shall finish my confab with you first. Mr. and Mrs. Bolton passed through here in their way to Cranwich, and begged, when I wrote, to assure you were, and ever would be, remembered by them with the greatest regard and esteem, and, I should hope it is needless to say, equally so by me and mine.

'How do the girls go on? I hope Anne is better and more attentive, and that they both improve, and are sensible of your kindness and attention to them. Will you permit Eliza to take another plan of Merton to show Mr. Bolton? Believe me,' &c.

823. A. L. S. from Mr. William Pearce to the same. Dated Admiralty Office, August 5th, 1805. 2 pages 4to., with Superscription and Seal. [P.]

'The combined fleet has certainly steered to the southward. Sir Robert Calder's letters of the 31st of July report that he has lost sight of them: they are not in Ferrol nor Rochfort; the opinion is, therefore, that they have pushed for Cadiz. With a heart anxious for the glory of England, and sincerely attached to Lord Nelson, I entertain a strong hope that he may fall in with them. May



every success that your ardent and anxious mind may predict attend our champion on the ocean. I remain,' &c.

'You will hear this information from other sources ; but I write that you may have some confidence in it, and I will not omit further communication if necessary.'

824. A. L. S. from Mrs. Bolton to the same. No date (August 8th, 1805). 2½ pages 8vo. [P.]

'I was happy to find, by your note this morning, you arrived safe thro' Newmarket. You cannot think how dull you left us, tho' Miss Langford was so good as not to leave us till this day. She is in great spirits, as we see by the papers her brother is arrived in England. Poor W<sup>m</sup> Girdlestone is very ill with an abscess formed in his ear ; the pain is dreadful. Have you received a paquet of letters we sent by the coach to Merton on Wednesday. I hope you will see Mr. Bolton in town. Pray tell Tom to make a point of seeing him if he is in town. Give all our kindest loves to all y<sup>r</sup> party. Accept the same.'

825. A. L. S. from the same to the same. No date (August 10th, 1805). 1 page 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'Thanks, my dear Lady, for your *scrap*. It was, indeed, short and *sweet*, for sweet was the intelligence that my dearest brother was arrived in England. What a Paradise he must think Merton, to say nothing of the Eve it contains. I need not give you joy, for I am *sure* you have it. The Dr is at Mrs. Burney's ; but depend upon it, they will soon be with you and fill your house. When you give a hint I will come.

'No time, I know, to read my *thrash*.'

826. A. L. S. from Mrs. Tyson to the same. No date (August 12th, 1805). 3 pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'I cannot resist taking up my pen to tell your Ladyship we spent a very pleasant day with d<sup>r</sup> Mrs. Cadogan at charming Merton. She, with Miss Lewold, are quite well, and we did not forget to drink my Lord's and your health. Tom Bolton was of the party. We left them at 6 o'clock, horse-back ; but, alas, I am got so weak, that the ride is too much for me, and I am very *unwell*. This morning, had I been well, I should have been happy to have paid you a visit. Mr. Netley is ordered this day to Gravesend in the same nice boat, and we should have had so fine a day. I know not what is the matter with me, but I am so weak, and my lungs so bad at night, that I fear I shall never be well in this place. Had my brother been fortunate enough to have got the cottage, I should have spent much of my time at it ; but the gentleman has altered his mind, to our great *disappointment, in all things*. Now I have no plans, but do not like his retiring to Jamaica. Something may yet be met with, then I hope to God my wishes—you know what I mean—may be realised. God send.

'I am, my dear Lady Hamilton, wishing all the blessings your good and charming disposition should have in this life.

'Your Ladyship, I beg, will pardon this, and please give it to Nancy.'

'Nancy, I will be much obliged to you look for a pair of silk stockings marked H. S., or only H., as they were given me at Bath, changed in the wash. I brought them to Southend, and when going to wear them they had a hole. I then gave them to my servant to mend ; she really does not know what place she had laid them in. I will thank you to look for them, and let me hear if you found them. She has been very pert about them, and I will not pay her till I hear from you.—E. TYSON.'

827. A. L. S. from Frederick Langford to the same. Dated H.M.S. *Lark*, Portsmouth, August 14th, 1805. 2 pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'The kind interest you have always so handsomely expressed for me, induces

me to intrude on your patience with a few lines, to say, I am returned from the Coast of Africa, which abounding in curiosities gave me an opportunity of providing myself with a few ; and as I have been lucky enough to preserve a crown bird and a civet-cat, which, if your Ladyship considers worth your acceptance, I shall feel much pleasure in forwarding to you. They are animals that will not require much care, and, I hope, will be found worthy of stocking your list of curiosities. I have long lamented the cruelty of fate in separating me from the fortunes of Lord Nelson, and can only derive consolation in anticipating the happiness of again serving with him. I should have been truly proud and happy to have made this the channel of congratulating you on any new accession of honour to so great a man. But the occasion of increasing his hitherto innumerable honours will, I have no doubt, soon happen to him : such appears the disposition of our enemies in risking out their fleets. With every respect and remembrance to your party,' &c.

828. A. L. S. from Sarah Connor\* to the same. Dated 'Tuesday' (August 20th, 1805). 4 pages 4to. [P.]

'Thank God, he is safe and well. Cold water has been trickling down my back ever since I heard he was arrived. Oh ! say, how he looks, and talks, and eats, and sleeps. Never was there a man come back so enthusiastically revered. Look at the ideas that pervade the minds of his fellow citizens in this morning's post. Timid spinsters and widows are terrified at his foot being on shore ; yet this is the man that is to have a Sir R. Calder and a Sir J. Orde sent to intercept his well-earned advantages. I hope he may never quit his own house again. This was my thundering reply last night to a set of cowardly women. I have lashed Pitt on this score to his idolatrice brawler. I send you her letter. The public are indignant at the manner L<sup>d</sup> N. has been treated.

'Old Edmonds died last Sunday, and there was a *caveat* entered at the Commons early on Monday morning. Blessed disgrace, all Sophy and M<sup>rs</sup> Elliot's coadjutors will meet if it comes to trial. The Prince at the head, to dazzle an old crazy fool, comes to use undue influence, for it is on that ground they are to be attack'd. B. Smith has just left me—she died early on yesterday, and M<sup>rs</sup> S. had entered her *caveat* at the same moment L<sup>d</sup> P. had entered his. He has had the start of all the great lawyers on his side, and he will out of spite, keep them at bay these ten years. M<sup>rs</sup> Boscawen the maid-of-honour cuts a sad figure for a paltry 400*l*. My Gad ! In short not one of the old woman's acquaintances, save and except myself, that will not be made to blush. Only think of Townsend the thief-catcher dining with the Prince at Brighton, and getting so beastly drunk that he could not tell where he lodged. I can hardly believe it—but Hookham assured me it was a fact.

'Lord Barrymore† has been handsomely taken down by Martin, the Member for Galway. L. B. affects to be a jester, and, to make the Prince laugh, he attacked this Irishman's groom in ridicule. It is too tedious to tell you all, but this was the finale :—"My lord," said Martin, "before we part, I will tell you a jester requires talents to tell a story well, good humour to bear raillery, and courage to stand the consequences. Neither of these three requisites does your lordship possess."

'Miss Thompson, of G—— Square, that was to be married to Mr. Grant, the match is off. The clothes bought, the day fixed, but the gentleman took a freak in his head to quarrel, and shook her violently. She screamed and fainted, and on her aunt coming in to her aid, she expostulated, and his reply was, "That was a trifle to what she might as his wife expect." She declared against putting it in his power, and off he walked. Now, there can be but two modes of reasoning : he is either mad, or did not know how to act like a gentleman. Her friends fear she is attached, and too much of the spaniel to snap her fingers at him. The Duchess of Castor's father comes from Youghal, in Ireland ; she has given more than one proof that she is very prolific, and the great name will not be extinct.

\* Lady Hamilton's cousin.

† Henry Barry, 8th Earl of Barrymore, 1770-1824. He was the last Earl of the name, and succeeded his brother in the title in 1793.



I am writing with a compress of goulard on my left eye—it is dreadfully inflamed—and dread my letter is not legible. I am made very unhappy. I hear dear, invaluable Lord Nelson is not well—no wonder!—but quiet and peace and Merton air, I trust in God, will establish his health. Tell every one in the country he is in town, and every one in town he is in the country—in short, to use Hamlet's words, don't let the winds of heaven visit his face too roughly—except on the quarter-deck at Merton.

'Adieu! Say everything in the tenderest style of friendship to that good, great man for Cha<sup>s</sup> & me. Heaven bless him and you.'

829. A. L. S. from Mrs. Matcham to the same. Dated 'Friday Morning' (August 24th, 1805). 1 page 4to. [P.]

'Some day next week we hope to meet you all at Merton. We should have set out immediately, but your little god-son has been unwell, cutting teeth, and we hope in a day or two to leave him quite well again. I must say with what happiness I look forward to the day of seeing our dear friends. I shall write when we leave home. Mr. M—— intends writing a few lines to my dear brother. With my most affectionate love to him and kind regards to all, I remain,' &c.

830. A. L. S. from Mr. Matcham to Lord Nelson. No date (August 24th, 1805). 1¼ pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'Most sincerely do I join in the congratulations of your friends on your safe arrival. God grant you may remain in England to enjoy the remainder of a life devoted to the service and honour of your country.

'It was my intention, my dear Lord, to have troubled you once more for a commendatory letter on behalf of my poor relatives. The anticipation on your part makes me doubly grateful. The names of the parties are: Mrs. Pitt and her family, including a son, grown up, and a married daughter; Short and his family; Rose and his family; Powel and his family, if deserving, of which heretofore I have had some doubt. Of the Pitt, Short, and Rose families I have had very favourable accounts. We expect in a very few days to have the heartfelt satisfaction of welcoming you, in person, once more to old England.'

831. A. L. S. from Mr. Bulkeley to the same. Dated Pencombe, Bromyard, August 26th, 1805. 2½ pages 4to. [P.]

'Many thanks to you, my dear friend, for your short but most comprehensive letter, mine to Captain Hardy was *conditional* as to Richard's leave of absence, and the conditions, such as I suppose, from the present posture of affairs, will prevent his allowing him to visit me; but should he have complied, you may depend on my not detaining him from his duty, or exposing him to any risks from love. I must not omit, in this place, giving you Richard's own words, in his letter to me, on his arriving at Spithead. "I solicit you to write directly to Lord Nelson, and return him your grateful thanks for the unexampled attention, conduct, and fatherly affection, which he has marked towards me ever since I have had the honour of sailing with him; expressly mention how warmly I feel it." Need I, my dear Lord, say more? the boy's sentiments correspond most perfectly with those that I feel.

'The last sentence in your letter grieves and vexes me; surely the crisis is sufficiently alarming for Ministers, in defiance of personal partiality or private interest, to prefer the country's good, and to give *its best hope* a *carte blanche*. You have put us out of conceit with all other Admirals. Look into your own acts and read the public papers for the last four months, then judge if John Bull will consent to give up *his sheet anchor*. We must not be imbecille at sea, as we are in the Cabinet.

'Pray tell me, if you received a book upon the subject of increasing seamen for the navy. I think I sent it by Captain Layman. Have you got any letter since your arrival at the Admiralty from me?

'All here join in best wishes and compliments to you. God bless you—may we soon hear of your thunders. Your,' &c.

832. A. L. S. from Mr. Naylor to Lady Hamilton. Dated Herald's College, London, August 31st, 1805.  $1\frac{1}{2}$  pages 4to. [P.]

'Enclosed are two paintings of Arms for your Ladyship's choice, subject to the approbation of the Kings-of-Arms, previous to being confirmed by patent, and registered in the College. The one marked A represents part of the Arms to the name of *Lyons*, with the Cross of Malta in chief; the other, marked B, is also part of the Arms borne by the name of *Lyons*, with a Fess charged with cinque foils and the Cross of Malta, in allusion to the Coat of Hamilton, and the aforesaid Order. I have also herewith enclosed a copy of the King's warrant to record the documents relating to the Order of Malta, given by the Emperor to Sir H. R. Popham, and a copy of his Grace the Earl Marshal's warrant for recording your Ladyship's Arms, and like honours in the said College, previous to which it will be necessary for your Ladyship to collect all the documents relating thereto for registration; and should it be the wish of your Ladyship to have the Order of Malta recognised by Royal Warrant similar to Sir H. Popham, I conceive it may easily be done. Your Ladyship, in transmitting me the necessary documents aforesaid, will be pleased to signify which of the two drawings, A or B, you should prefer having granted, in order that I may be enabled to proceed with the patent, and when completed will be borne on an Escutcheon of Pretence, the arms of the late Sir William Hamilton, K.B. I have the honour to be,' &c.

833. A. L. S. from Captain Malcolm\* to Lord Nelson. Dated *Donegal*, off Cadiz, September 5th (1805).  $3\frac{1}{2}$  pages 4to. [P.]

'Admiral Louis conveyed to me your very handsome letter of thanks to the Officers and crews of the ship that had the honour to serve under your flag. I can assure your Lordship that the *Donegals* feel most particularly flattered by your good opinion, and it is their most anxious wish that they may again serve with you, and our hopes are very sanguine, for in such eventful times your Lordship will not be permitted to remain on shore, and we believe that if in your power, you will have your own old friends again with you. I fear there is little prospect that the *Donegal* will be dock'd; was her copper clean there would not be her superior in the service. Sir Richard sailed round us, and wrote me a complimentary note on her appearance. We are in wonderful health considering we have had no refreshments since we sailed from Tetuan. I suppose our chiefs have taken measures to procure supplies, but we are in the dark, for as they have done me the honour to place me near to the rear of the lee division, and as we keep open order, we know not what is done in the van. Since we joined Admiral Collingwood we have been detached with Admiral Louis inshore. The enemy appear ready for sea, that is, thirty-six sail of the line, and reports say they have embarked troops. If we are to blockade them, I fancy we must be very much on the alert, for they will be very active with their gun-boats. Last night I had the look-out inshore; at daylight near twenty of them came out, and had the breeze not sprung up, they would have been within shot in an hour; as it was, they were at no great distance.

'If your Lordship is in London when you receive this, you will confer a singular obligation on me if opportunity offers, if you would mention to Lord Barham that my brother has been soliciting employment upwards of two years. Sir Thomas Pasley has applied very frequently, but I apprehend he is considered as past serving, and therefore not attended to (the more is the pity). I would not have troubled your Lordship, as I know you have so many such applications, but my anxiety for my brother induces me. I have the honour to remain,' &c.

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\* Captain, afterwards Admiral, Sir Pulteney Malcolm, 1768-1838, entered the navy in 1778, and was advanced to post rank in 1794. He distinguished himself off Domingo, was employed against Washington, Baltimore, and New Orleans, and was at the siege of Fort Boyen. He became a Rear-Admiral in 1813, and commanded in chief at St. Helena from early in 1816 to the end of 1817. He was advanced to the rank of Vice-Admiral in 1821, and to that of Admiral of the Blue in 1837.



834. A. L. S. from the Abbé Campbell to the same. Dated Naples, September 6th, 1805. 2 pages 4to. [P.]

'I can't let escape the opportunity of the *Bittern's* sailing this evening from hence to join you without troubling your Lordship with a few lines, which in all probability will find you at Merton, where I sincerely wish to have the honour of seeing you and our dear friend Lady Hamilton, being certain of a friendly reception. How sorry I was that your Lordship did not meet with the combined fleets, we should have had a better account of them. Your friend the Marquis Circello has not been as yet officially appointed to any place, some attribute it to the fear of displeasing the French, whilst others think it is a cabal of Medici, the Duke St. Theodore, Cardito and Gallo against him; he, however, goes as Counsellor of State to all the Councils, and is extremely liked, particularly by the poor good King, the Queen likewise is very attentive to him. St. Clair is made Gentleman of the Chamber to the great scandal of every well meaning person of the country; Count and Countess de la Tour, as a cloak to the former, are appointed one a Gentleman of the Bedchamber, and the other Lady of Honour, these last are mortal enemies to us English, even more so than St. Clair, because they are more clever.

'The French are very quiet here at present, but it is only momentary, as they are waiting for a force from the north of Italy to march into the kingdom whenever they can safely do it; they are now at Bari, and as I am informed will retreat to Pescara without risking a battle, in case either the English or Russians land in the kingdom, this is what I learn. The King comes to town to-night from Caserta, the Queen from Castel-à-Mare, and the Prince from Portici to assist at a popular feast near Possilippo, named Pie della Grotta.

'The Marquis and Marchioness of Circello desire their best respects to you. I have not heard from our dear Lady Hamilton since my arrival here, though I wrote twice to her. God for ever bless you, and believe me, my dear Lord,' &c.

'P.S.—Pray remember me to my brother parson, Scott, whom I like much.'

835. A. L. S. from Sir William Bolton to Lady Hamilton. Dated H.M.S. *Guerrier*, Gibraltar, September 8th, 1805. 1 $\frac{3}{4}$  pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'It is with heartfelt pleasure I learnt his Lordship's safe arrival in town, but I felt a stronger sensation at finding Cobbett,\* in his paper, directing the attention of the public to the virtues of a friend we all so deservedly venerate. I cannot help smiling at this singular beginning to your Ladyship, but, or I am mistaken, your Ladyship feels greater pleasure in the smallest addition to my noble Patron's glory than in any compliment my weak pen can address to yourself. I will not, therefore, offer at an excuse.

'It is generally believed here that his Lordship sails for this country some time this month, in which case a letter could not reach him in England. Should I, therefore, be out in my conjecture, I trust to your Ladyship's known goodness to present him my grateful respects. I am full of hopes from his Lordship's being in town, he will have it in his power (he ever had the will) to take me out of the *Guerrier*. I heard from my dear Lady Bolton about the middle of July. My letters from Norfolk are all full of the praises of my Emma. With so generous a friend as your Ladyship has approved yourself, and surrounded as they are by papas and mammas, to me absence seems deprived of half its *désagrément*, and should our own Admiral come to us again, I verily believe the remaining half would be felt no more: but your Ladyship will not be so cruel to tell Kate so. The Rock is still perfectly healthy, and every prospect of continuing so this summer, to the general satisfaction of the inhabitants. Isolated as we are, I can have nothing in the shape of news to communicate, but remain,' &c.

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\* William Cobbett, 1762–1835, a voluminous political writer. After serving in the army he settled in America, but at the repeal of the Six Acts returned to England, and in 1832 was returned M.P. for Oldham.

836. A. L. S. from Lady Bolton to her mother. Dated 'Brancaster, Saturday Evening' (September 9th, 1805). 3 pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'My uncle arrived this day; he brought the bonnet, which pleases all the party. Mrs. Peirson is much obliged to you for the trouble you have taken about it. I admire the gown very much, and am much obliged to you for it.

'William Girdlestone came with my uncle to drive Susanna back in the whiskey. She intends leaving on Monday. We have received two letters from Sir William—one to Susanna, dated the fifth of August, the other to my uncle, of the twentieth of August. He was quite well; in his last, he says, Sir Richard Bickerton has been obliged, from ill-health, to give up his command to Admiral Knight, and has hoisted his flag on board the *Guerrier*. He mentioned that Sir Richard Bickerton perhaps might order the *Guerrier* establishment to be reduced immediately, agreeable to the Navy Board order, which had arrived there, although the Admiralty order to the same effect had not yet come to hand. He adds, that, in that case, he might probably get a passage home in the *Amphion*, Captain Sutton. Should the convoy, which was daily expected, arrive before the Admiral's departure (which was expected to be in about ten days) for England, the order might perhaps arrive in time. This, with desiring to be respectfully remembered to Lady Hamilton, was all worth mentioning, except that they looked upon themselves quite safe from the pestilence. The place was very healthy. I can only hope, my dear mother, that the order did not arrive in time, as I know how great would be his disappointment should he arrive in England after Lord Nelson had left it. Thank Lady Hamilton for her letter. Her god-daughter sends her some kisses. She is as well as usual. I have enclosed a letter from his father to Sir William, to be sent by my Lord. If it should be too late for him, we would thank you to send it by the post. I beg you will say everything to my aunt, to thank her for her kind offer of receiving me again in the winter. Susanna desires I will give her love to her, and all the party desire the same to all.'

837. A. L. S. from Colonel McMahon\* to Lord Nelson. Dated Carlton House, Wednesday Evening, September 11th, 1805. 1 page 4to. [P.]

'Colonel McMahon presents his best respects to Lord Nelson, and is commanded by the Prince of Wales to say how miserable he shall feel if his Lordship were to take his departure without his Royal Highness having the happiness to see him, and to entreat for that pleasure to-morrow morning at any hour, however early, that Lord Nelson will have the goodness to appoint.'

838. A. L. S. from Lord Nelson to Mr. W. Perry. Dated September 12th, 1805. 1 page 4to., with Superscription.

'We expect you and Mrs. Perry to dinner, although I am going to London this morning by desire of the Prince of Wales.

'I have left two of my little books for your amusement. In the one wrote by me is the first thought of my going to the West Indies, p. 330. After I leave Cape St. Vincent, no letter is interesting till June 4th, and then to June 10th; but I trust you confidentially with the perusal. The one wrote by my secretary is the reasons for my going to Egypt, which subsequents reports have confirmed (as far [as] I believe). My letter respecting Sardinia, as amongst the last, will be very interesting. Ever, my dear Sir,' &c.

'I think you will find two hours' amusement.'

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\* The Right Hon. John McMahon, having been Private Secretary and Keeper of the Privy Purse to the Prince Regent, was created a Baronet a month before his death in 1817.



839. A. L. S. from the same to Lady Hamilton. Dated 'Victory, September 20th, 1805, 30 Leg<sup>s</sup> S.W. from Scilly.' 1 page 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'A frigate is coming down, which we take to be the *Decade*, from the fleet off Cadiz. If the battle has been fought, I shall be sadly vexed, but I cannot help myself. We have had very indifferent weather, and it is still very dirty. Perseverance has got us thus far, and I trust will accomplish all our wishes. I write this line to put on board her, for if she has news I have to write to the Admiralty. May heavens bless you. Kiss dear Horatia. For ever yours,' &c.

840. A. L. S. from Miss E. Bolton to the same. Dated September 28th, 1805. 1½ pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'I should have written to you before, but I thought my letters would not be worth the postage, and as papa was going up to town, I awaited for that opportunity. We expect Lady Bolton home next week, with Emma. I reckon very much on seeing her. They tell me she is still very pretty and very engaging. She does not talk much, but she tries. Pray give my love to Mrs. Cadogan when you write to her. Susanna desires her love to her, and begs that you will tell her that she hopes to have three or four bottles of ketchup for her, but it is not ready yet; when it is, she will send it. I practise music, read and translate French every day. I try to keep up what I already know, and I hope I shall succeed, as I should be very sorry to lose what Mrs. Weichsell has taught me, and I hope, when I return, you will be satisfied with what I have done. Pray give our love to Anne, Horatia, and all the party.

'P.S.—We have sent one bottle of ketchup and one of pickled mushrooms.'

841. A. L. S. from the Rev. C. Este to the same. No date (September 30th, 1805). 2½ pages 8vo. [P.]

'Much esteemed, dear lady, I trouble you with this brief note to tell, what probably you may be glad to hear—viz., that some troops were to embark this morn at Portsmouth. Their destination is said to be for the Mediterranean, but I cannot help thinking, for the Fleet, for I cannot help thinking also that we shall have the greatest triumph of all. I shall not wonder even if we were to have the greatest part of the fleet. Yesterday being the 29th, Horatio-mas day, we kept it accordingly with all possible observances of love and honour. Adieu, adieu, dearest lady, and be ever as happy as you would and should be,' &c.

'The troops above-mentioned are about 3000. A Brigade of Scotch Highlanders. For The Day of the Illustrious Tutelary Saint, Horatio, let me say *Molti e Felici*, again, again, and again. Again, too, dear madam, adieu.'

842. A. L. S. from Miss M. Connor to Miss Charlotte Nelson. Dated October 4th (1805). 3½ pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'I am excessively obliged to you for your kind letter, which, I assure you, has given much pleasure. You see I take advantage of your request to write soon by answering it as quickly as possible. I hope, however, as you have begun, you will often write me long letters. Little Horatia sends a kiss to you & Lady H., & her love to all your party. She is looking very well indeed, & is to me a most delightful companion. We read about twenty times a day, as I do not wish to confine her long at a time, & she is now learning the names of the keys on the pianoforte. I am quite busy dressing her doll. I've just completed a mattress & pillows for the bed; it is a continual source of amusement. We are all very sorry to hear poor Julie is so very ill. I fancy by this time Marianne is arrived at Canterbury. Mrs. Cadogan desires her love to Lady H., Mrs. N., & yourself. She would have written, but as Marianne would arrive as soon as the post, & would tell you everything, she thought it unnecessary. I had, last night,

a letter from Miss Yonge, she is yet at Stanmore ; her father came to town to-day. I am quite astonished at Mrs. Franco's having eloped. I only wonder who she could find to elope with her. I dare say he is not very sorry if the truth were known.

'Mr. Bolton left us yesterday morning, & set out for Cranwich the same evening. We went to town on Wednesday about Tom's clothes, & meant to have dined in Clarges Street. We had forgot they were busy papering, so we dined at Mrs. Roberts. Horatia liked it amazingly, & we bought some shoes & stockings & a hat for the doll. She is uncommonly quick, & I dare say will read tolerably by the time you see her again. I told her she was invited to see a ship launched ; every morning she asks if it is to *be to-day*, & wanted to know if there will be any *firing of guns*. Mr. Bolton told us you had the usual *delicate fare* at Woolwich. I am sorry to hear poor Mrs. Tyson is ill. I believe I have pretty nearly tired your patience. Adieu, my dear, dear Miss Nelson ; may God bless & grant you every happiness is the sincere wish of your aff<sup>te</sup> friend.

'Horatia has written & indited the whole of what is written at the end. She wants to guide my hand as I did hers, while I write this. My love to my lady.

['My dear my lady, I thank you for the books. I drink out of my Lord's cup every day ; give my love to him every day when you write, & a kiss. Miss Connor gave me some kisses when I read my book well. O, here three kisses. My love to Miss Nelson. My dear my lady, I love you very much.']\*

843. A. L. S. (incomplete) from Lord Nelson to Lady Hamilton. No date (October 1st, 1805). 4 pages 4to. [P.]

. . . . 'And when Louis's squadron goes I shall have twenty-three sail of the line to meet them, but we shall do very well. I am sensible that Ministry are sending me all the force they can, and I hope to use it.

'*October 2nd.*—Last night I got your dear letters, September 18th, 19th, by Admiral Sutton. You must not complain of my short letters, [for all that I could write, was it a ream of paper, might be comprised in one short sentence, that I love you dearly, tenderly, and affectionately.] I have had, as you will believe, a very distressing scene with poor Sir Robert Calder. He has wrote home to beg an inquiry, feeling confident that he can fully justify himself. I sincerely hope he may, but I have given him the advice as to my dearest friend. He is in adversity, and if he ever has been my enemy, he now feels the pang of it, and finds me one of his best friends.

['Our friend, Sir Evan, is a great courtier ; whilst we are in prosperity, or that your face and voice may please him, he will be our admirer in different ways—me to feed his ambition, you to please his passion. But I can, and so can you, see into such friends. Why don't he serve poor Brent.']

'Louis, Hallowell, Hoste, are all inquiring about you, and desire their kind regards. I am pressed beyond measure for time, for I cannot keep the vessel, as Vice-Admiral Collingwood's and Sir Robert Calder's dispatches were stopt by me off Cape St. Vincent on the 26th. May God bless you, [my dearly-beloved Emma.] Kiss Horatia for me a thousand times. I shall write her very soon ; in 8 or 10 days another vessel will be sent. Remember me kindly to M<sup>rs</sup> Cadogan, Miss Connor, Reynolds, and Charlotte, and say everything kind for me to the Doctor & Mrs. Nelson, if this finds you at Canterbury, and again & for ever believe your most faithful, in every sense of the word,' &c.

'If you see Lady Eliz<sup>th</sup> Foster, say that I have delivered to Clifford all his things, letters, &c., and he is to dine with me to-day. I have just got your letter of Aug<sup>t</sup> 6<sup>th</sup> recommending Mr. O'Reilly of the *Canopus*. I fear I can do nothing for him, unless the combined fleet puts to sea.

'Make my compliments to Mr. Perry and our Merton friends. I congratulate you on the fall of the wall and the opening prospect. I hope the kitchen is going on. God bless you. Amen, amen, amen, with all the fervour . . . '

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\* The portion in square brackets is in the child's writing, and signed 'Horatia.'



844. A. L. S. from Lady Hamilton to Lord Nelson. Dated Canterbury, October 4th (1805). 3 pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'My most dear Nelson, I forgot to tell you that Lord Sidmouth's son\* stab'd himself at Worthing about a month ago—that was what H. Adington aluded to. He is not dead, it is the Clerk of the Polls, the boy you heard of as being too young to have such a place. Lord Douglas as just call'd; he would have given much to have seen you when you was in England; he looks upon you as the sweetest of all human beings. The Dr has invited him to dinner to-morrow. The poor old Duke must have a letter every day from me. I had begun to fret at not having letters from you. I send you a letter of Miss Connor's, for there is much in it about our dear girl, you will like it. I also had one from my mother, who doats on her, she says she could not live without her. What a blessing for her parents to have such a child, so sweet, altho' so young, so amiable! God spare her to them, and be assured, my life, my soul, of your own Emma's fondest affections. You are my all of good. Heavens bless, bless you. Yours only, yours,' &c.

845. A. L. S. from the same to the same. Dated Canterbury, October 8th, 1805. 5½ pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'My dearest life, we are just come from church, for I am so fond of the Church Service and the cannons are so civil; we have every day a fine anthem for me. Yesterday, Mr., Mrs., & Miss Harrisson, Mrs. Bridges, Marquis of Douglas, and General Thornton, and Mr. Baker the Member, dined with us. The Dr gave a good dinner, and Mariana dressed the macaroni and curry, so all went off well. Our Julia is very ill yet, but not brought to bed, as she is only seven months. I do not mean to keep Julia after she gets well. I was obliged to send for Mariana down, & my mother can ill spare her; she gives me such an amiable account of our dearest Horatia. She now reads very well, & is learning her notes, & French, & Italian, & my mother doats on her. The other day she said at table, "Mrs. Candogging, I wonder Julia did not run out of the church when she went to be married, for I should, seeing my squinting husband come in, for, my God! how ugly he is, and how he looks cross-eyed; why, as my lady says, he looks 2 ways for Sunday." Now Julia's husband is the ugliest man you ever saw, but how that little thing cou'd observe him; but she is clever, is she not, Nelson? We go to-morrow for 2 days to Ramsgate to see an old friend, poor Lady Dunmore, who is there, is in great affliction for the loss of her son, Captain John Murry.† To-day we dine alone, to eat up the scraps, & drink tea with old Mrs. Percy. Charlotte hates Canterbury, it is *so dull*; so it is. My dear girl writes every day in Miss Conner's letter & I am so pleased with her. My heart is broke away from her, but I have now had her so long at Merton that my heart cannot bear to be without her. You will be even fonder of her when you return. She says, "I love my dear, dear, godpapa, but Mrs. Gibson told me he kill'd all the people, and I was afraid." Dearest angel she is! Oh, Nelson, how I love her, but how do I idolize you—the dearest husband of my heart, you are all in this world to your Emma. May God send you victory, and home to your *Emma, Horatia, and paradise Merton*, for when you are there it will be paradise. My own Nelson, may God prosper you & preserve you, for the sake of your affectionate,' &c.

'I hope Sir Edward Berry has joined you by this time, but I now long to have letters from you. Everybody is full of Sir R. Calder's coming home. Captain Staines called yesterday; he is gone to town, as he wishes much to join you. Lord Douglas beg'd me to ask you if you ever met with Turkish tobacco, &, if you did, he wishes you wou'd send him some. Write often; tell me how you are & how the sea agrees with you, weather it is a bad port to blockade, in short, the smallest trifle that concerns you is so very interesting to your *own, faithful*,' &c.

'My compliments to the Mr. Scotts and Mr. Ford. Poor Nancy recommends her brother to you. Nancy has nursed me in many an illness, night and day, & you will love her for *that*. Tyson is going to buy a country seat and park for Mrs.

\* Lord Sidmouth had only one son, William Leonard, 2nd Viscount, 1794–1864. He was in holy orders, and succeeded his father in the title in 1844.

† Captain John Murray, R.N., 1765–1805, third son of John, 4th Earl of Dunmore.

Tyson, near Woolwich. My compliments to Admiral Louis. God bless you, my own, own Nelson.'

846. A. L. S. from Mrs. Bolton to Lady Hamilion. Dated 'Thursday, noon' (Bath, October 18th, 1805). 3 pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'I shall obey y<sup>r</sup> commands, or rather, I may say, wishes, & be at Merton next Tuesday night, & if I am well enough will be with you at Woolwich on the 24<sup>th</sup>, at any rate shall see you before I leave town; but I am, & have been, very indifferent, indeed, so much so that I am sure you would not wish for my company did you know what an invalid I am; in very truth, I have not been well since I have been at Bath.

'You desire me to write you a letter to enliven you; I have begun it well. I saw Tom Tit yesterday in her carriage at the next door, come to take Lady Charlotte Drummond out with [her]. She look'd then much as usual; had I seen only her hands *spreading about* I should have know her.

'I hope by the last Lisbon mails you have got letters from my dear brother, & that I am sure will drive away all the blue devils, in spite of screech owls, rooks, &c. You must keep up your spirits. What in the world will my Lord think if he comes back & finds you grown thin & looking ill?

'Mrs. Matcham wrote a letter to you last week about Dr. Fisher; did you ever receive it? He is to be my companion to town next Monday; he is a very cheerful, pleasant man. I had a letter from Cranwich yesterday. Lady Bolton was yet there; she had a letter from her husband dated the beginning of Sep. in full hopes of seeing my Lord. They had got it in report that he was appointed to the *Fishguard*, but upon enquiring it was the other Capt. Bolton. I wish we could hear that he had a frigate. Mr. & Mrs. Matcham are well, & children. Kitty is much obliged to you for thinking of her music. They are very thin, not at all in your style of beauty, for they have not flesh enough on their bones to give your torments, the crows, a dinner. We all join in kind love to you and Charlotte, the Dr., & Mrs. Nelson.'

847. Facsimile\* of A. L. S. from Lord Nelson to the same. Dated 'Victory, October 19th, 1805.' 2 pages 4to. [P.]

'My dearest, beloved Emma, the dear friend of my bosom, the signal has been made that the enemy's combined fleet are coming out of port. We have very little wind, so that I have no hopes of seeing them before to-morrow. May the God of Battles crown my endeavours with success; at all events, I will take care that my name shall ever be most dear to you and Horatia, both of whom I love as much as my own life; and as my last writing before the battle will be to you, so I hope in God that I shall live to finish my letter after the Battle. May Heaven bless you prays your Nelson & Bronté. Oct<sup>r</sup> 20 in the morning we were close to the mouth of the Streights, but the wind had not come far enough to the westward to allow the combined fleets to weather the Shoals of Trafalgar, but they were counted as far as forty sail of ships of war, which I suppose to be 34 of the Line and six Frigates. A group of them was seen off the lighthouse off Cadiz this morn<sup>g</sup>, but it blows so very fresh & thick weather that I rather believe they will go into the Bay before night. May God Almighty give us success over these fellows, and enable us to get a peace.'

848. Copy of Document. Dated 'Victory, October 21st, 1805, then in sight of the combined fleets of France and Spain, distant about ten miles.' 1 page folio.

'Whereas the eminent services of Emma Hamilton, widow of the Right

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\* The original of this, Nelson's last letter, is in the British Museum. At the end Lady Hamilton has added, 'This letter was found open on His desk, & brought to Lady Hamilton by Cap<sup>t</sup> Hardy. Oh, miserable, wretched Emma! Oh, glorious & happy Nelson!'



Honourable Sir William Hamilton, have been of the very greatest service to our King and country, to my knowledge, without her receiving any reward from either our King or country :—first, that she obtained the King of Spain's letter in 1796, to his brother the King of Naples, acquainting him of his intention to declare war against England ; from which letter, the Ministry sent out orders to the then Sir John Jervis, to strike a stroke, if opportunity offered, against either the arsenals of Spain or her fleets. That neither of these was done, is not the fault of Lady Hamilton. The opportunity might have been offered. Secondly, the British fleet under my command, could never have returned the second time to Egypt, had not Lady Hamilton's influence with the Queen of Naples, caused letters to be wrote to the Governor of Syracuse, that he was to encourage the fleet being supplied with every thing, should they put into any port in Sicily. We put into Syracuse, and received every supply, went to Egypt, and destroyed the French fleet. Could I have rewarded these services, I would not now call upon my country ; but as that has not been in my power, I leave Emma, Lady Hamilton, therefore, a legacy to my King and country, that they will give her an ample provision to maintain her rank in life. I also leave to the beneficence of my country, my adopted daughter, Horatia Nelson Thompson ; and I desire she will use, in future, the name of Nelson only. These are the only favours I ask of my King and country, at this moment, when I am going to fight their battle. May God bless my King and country, and all those who I hold dear. My relations it is needless to mention, they will, of course, be amply provided for.' &c.

849. A. L. S. from Rev. A. J. Scott to Mrs. Cadogan. Dated '*Victory at Sea*,' October 27th, 1805. 1 page 4to.

'Hasten the very moment you receive this to dear Lady Hamilton, and prepare her for the greatest of misfortunes. I fear even now I am too late, but ever since the fatal victory we have been separated by a gale of wind from the Fleet, and the news already may have reached you.

'Pray, my dearest Madam, assure yourself of my constant attention and friendship while I live and breathe. It is now my duty to show it and I can act up to it. The friends of my beloved N. are for ever dear to me. God of heaven bless you all, my dear Madam. I shall not quit the remains of my Lord until the last moment. Again I say I am devoted to you and Lady H.'s command. It is still a hurried time, & I can say no more. Good God ! have I not said too much ? While I live I am your,' &c.

850. A. L. S. from Mr. Thomas Bolton to Lady Hamilton. Dated Cranwich, November 3rd, 1805. 1 page 4to., with Superscription.

'I saw in the paper of Thursday last the death of Welbore Ellis Agar,\* Esq<sup>r</sup>, one of the Comm<sup>rs</sup> of the Customs, and as I have heard nothing from Mr. Rose, I fear they have given it away. If you can with propriety say anything to remind him of his promise to Lord Nelson I shall think myself obliged. At present there is no time fixed for my coming to town, when it is I will let you know. It does not depend upon me. We are all well, and are always glad to hear from Merton.'

851. A. L. S. from Sir Thomas Louis to the same. Dated '*Canopus*, off Cadiz,' November 9th, 1805. 2½ pages 4to. [P.]

'The painful task I am now about to undertake is truly distressing to me, still, after the many repeated marks of attention and friendship from you and yours when abroad as well as in England, I should think myself very deficient indeed at a moment like this not to offer my condolence with yours for the loss

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\* Welbore Ellis Agar, 1736–1805, one of the Commissioners of Customs, and a great collector of pictures. Lady Hamilton's letter to Mr. Rose, written the day after the above, is printed in Mr. Rose's *Diaries and Correspondence*, but under date 1804 ; Lady Hamilton having merely dated her letter November 4th, and having spoken of the death of *Welbore Ellis*, the editor was uncertain as to the year.

of our gallant, valuable, and much to be lamented Lord Nelson. To enter upon my sufferings on this awful occasion must give pain to both, and every one that knew his valour. Never was a man more beloved by all, nor a loss so much regretted. He died truly the Hero in the arms of Victory. Such a loss can never be replaced. Could I suppose when I last parted with him it was never to meet again? Surely not. How would I have parted from him had a thought of the kind entered my heart, altho' I might have received his displeasure at the moment in objecting; but it was my lot to be detached with a division to receive supplies at Gib. and water at Tetuan, after which to protect a valuable convoy with a considerable sum on board clear of the Carthagera squadron. I could not help remarking to my most worthy and good friend, Lord Nelson, that I feared the enemy would come out while we were absent. His reply, "*Don't mind, Louis; they won't come out yet, and my fleet must be completed; the sooner you go the better.*" Now, what must all our distress and suffering be after following him close upon the enemy, and then to be prevented the honour of closing the day with the *man* we all so much adored, and what was still more distressing, to lose him on that ever to be lamented day. Poor Captains Hallowell and Stopford were of my party, the former you know full well, the regard they had for each other. The grand consolation now left that after the severe wound he received had he lived he might have lingered a life and existence extremely painful to himself, and equally or more so, as well as very distressing, to those who knew and loved him.

'It wou'd be a great gratification to me to have something that was once really *his* as a token of remembrance and regard for the man I loved and had the highest respect for, which shall be handed down to my posterity. I never made such a request before and never shall again, for no man ever can have the warmth of my heart and soul so strong and sincere. I don't care what it is. You will oblige me much by sending it directed to Mrs. Louis, Cadwell, Newton Bushell, Devon; she will take care of it untill my return. God bless you, my dear Lady Hamilton. Had I shared the honours of that day, I might have seen you earlier than it appears likely at present I shall, but whenever I am in England I shall not lose time in paying my respects, and to assure you how much obliged I feel for every mark of attention and kindness from you, and how much I regret the loss of my dear and valuable friend, Lord Nelson.

'My best wishes attend you, Mrs. Cadogan, and Miss Charlotte, to whom I beg to be particularly remembered.'

852. A. L. S. from Mr. Rose to the same. Dated November 17th, 1805.

3 pages 4to. [H.]

'There are occasions on which silence is more expressive than words. If I were to attempt to convey what I feel, & shall to the end of my life, at the irreparable loss the country and the friends of the glorious Hero have sustained, I should utterly fail. In the beginning of September he wrote to me from London, on my entreating him to sit to Edridge\* for me, that he should certainly do so if he were not ordered to sea very, very soon. When I saw him on board the *Victory* I did not ask him whether he had done so, lest if he had not he should be at all uncomfortable; but since the melancholy news was received I wrote to Mr. Edridge, & learn from him that I am disappointed. I recollect an admirable portrait by Sir W<sup>m</sup> Beechey,† to whom I wrote to learn where it is, in the hope of getting a small whole-length by Bone‡ from it, but Sir W<sup>m</sup> Beechey

\* Henry Edridge, 1769–1821, a miniature painter. In 1814 he became a Fellow of the Royal Society of Antiquaries, and in 1820 an Associate of the Royal Academy. Many of his likenesses, including one of himself, are in the British Museum.

† Sir William Beechey, 1753–1839, a well-known English painter, who first exhibited portraits in the Academy in 1775. In 1781 he removed to Norwich, where he stayed for some years, and in 1793 was elected A.R.A., and painted a portrait of Queen Charlotte, which procured him the appointment of portrait painter to her Majesty. He was knighted, and was for a long while the fashionable portrait painter of the day.

‡ Henry Bone, 1755–1834, an enamel painter, in 1811 elected a Royal Academician.



tells me it is in the Great Hall at Norwich. In this state of despair I entreat you will help me in the best way you can. I dare not hope that any one who has an original painting, or the roughest sketch of a drawing, would let me have it, though I should set a value on it above all price. It seems to me, however, that you may be able to assist me, and afford me the highest gratification (next to possessing *anything* original) by procuring me the loan of a good portrait of him to have one done from by Bone. I will make no apology for this intrusion on you. I am,' &c.

'I return to Cuffnell's on Wednesday.

'I have this instant a letter from my incomparable & ever to be lamented Friend, in which (when he was hourly expecting the action) he says, "I verily believe the country will soon be put to some expense on my account, either a monument or new pension."'

853. A. L. S. from Mr. J. D. Thomson\* to the same. Dated 'Thursday, 12 o'clock' (December 5th, 1805).† 1 page 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'The *Victory* is safe at Spithead, and is about to proceed on to the Downs.

'If I hear anything of Capt. Hardy's motions, I will assuredly let you know.

'The other 2 ships are also safe in Port.'

854. A. L. S. from Mrs. Blackwood to the same. Dated Portsmouth, Friday, December 6th (1805). 2 pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'It was Captain Blackwood's wish to have had the pleasure of addressing you himself, but the great hurry of accumulated business on his arrival at Portsmouth will, I hope, apologise for his thus deputing me his secretary. Cap<sup>n</sup> B. is anxious to communicate to your mind the relief which, allow me to say, *we* trust the prospect of this letter may afford you, in informing your Ladyship that he saw Cap<sup>n</sup> Hardy this morn<sup>ng</sup>, who has in his possession papers and the *last* will of his ever to be regretted Commander, which will prove highly gratifying & satisfactory to you; that it is Cap<sup>n</sup> Hardy's determination not to deliver any of them up to any person untill he has seen you, which, in the course of a few days, he hopes to do in town; that Cap<sup>n</sup> Hardy will most steadily endeavour to fulfil the wishes of his departed friend, by his best exertions and utmost efforts to assist your interest & promote your wishes in every possible way he can. Cap<sup>n</sup> Hardy, this morn<sup>g</sup>, set off for Mr. Rose's, at Cuffnell's, upon business of importance. What I have taken the liberty of expressing was expressed by Cap<sup>n</sup> H. in the most kindly and zealous manner towards your Ladyship. I am,' &c.‡

855. A. L. S. from Rev. A. J. Scott to the same. No date (December 22nd, 1805). 1 page 4to. [P.]

'I did not get your letter before yesterday afternoon, too late to answer you from hence—indeed, now it is such weather, I doubt if I can get my letter on shore. I cannot come to London yet; nothing upon earth, however, would prevent me but the duty I owe the remains of the best beloved and most

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\* Sir John Deas Thomson, 1763–1838, at that time Private Secretary to the First Lord of the Admiralty, afterwards Commissioner and Accountant-General of the Navy. He was knighted in 1832.

† The *Victory*, with Nelson's body on board, anchored at Spithead, December 5th.

‡ On the third page of the letter is the following A. L. S. from Cap<sup>t</sup> Blackwood:—'Hardy may have spoken his mind on former occasions more freely than you could have wished, but depend upon it that the last words of our lamented friend will influence his conduct. He desires me, in the most unequivocal manner, to assure you of his good intentions towards you. This, I hope, will ease your mind.'

interesting of human beings. I will not go on shore but with them, after which my next duty will be to pay my respects to you. In offering you my services, for the first time in my life, I regret my own insignificance; I am devoted to you, however, sincerely.

'Admiral Collingwood sent home despatches, without giving us an opportunity of writing. A gale of wind had separated us from the fleet, otherwise I had taken precautions to write to you. I hope you do not think me either negligent or forgetful. Have the goodness to remember me to all the family, Lord N., Lady N., and Lady Charlotte. Believe me,' &c.

856. A. L. S. from the same to the same. Dated December 23rd, 1805.

1 page 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'I take the liberty of writing to you, only to say that, with the blessing of God, the remains of your beloved, incomparable, and invaluable friend, are safe, and will be on shore at Greenwich by to-morrow. I would wait upon you to-morrow, but it does not agree with the principle I have adopted of not leaving the place where he is until I lose sight of him for ever; I know you will approve of this. God bless you, my dearest Madam. Accept the warmest prayers of my heart for your repose and welfare. I am ever, while I live, with zeal and attachment,' &c.

857. A. L. S. from the same to the same. Dated 'Park Row, Greenwich, No. 21, near the East Gate of the Hospital,' December 25th, 1805.

1 page 4to. [P.]

'The body of my dear Lord was last night deposited in the Board Room of Greenwich Hospital, which will not be opened until his removal to the Painted Chamber. I need not tell you how sorry I was to quit it. I have taken lodgings here, and shall remain until the procession goes from hence to London. In all things you may command me, and I really wish for your approbation in every thing, considering you as a still surviving part of my blessed and beloved friend. God bless you, my dear Madam, and give you happier days than these. With respect, I am,' &c.

858. A. L. S. from the same to the same. Dated No. 21 Park Row, Greenwich, January 1st, 1806. 1 page 4to. [P.]

'Why, my dearest Madam, do you not order one of your young folks to write to me and let me know your health and spirits are improving? I do not expect you shou'd trouble yourself with writing to me—no human being is more sincerely interested in your happiness & welfare than I am. I have not moved out from these lodgings but to go to the hospital over the way. I saw Mr. Tyson yesterday, who had enjoyed the good fortune to see you. I cannot, unless you expressly wish it, until after the funeral, when the scene is closed for ever with my invaluable and incomparable friend. I am devoted to your service. Good God! how does the country want him now!

'I do not mean to speak to you in worldly terms, my dearest Madam; while I live, with the deepest respect, regard, and attachment, I am,' &c.

859. A. L. S. from the same to the same. Dated No. 21 Park Row, Greenwich, January 3rd, 1806. 1 page 4to. [P.]

'I received this morning your very kind note, and altho' I am flattered and feel grateful for the manner in which you speak to me, still I am sorry you should have troubled yourself to write. Earl Nelson and Horace\* were here to-day, the latter was very much affected, and wept a great deal. I can truly say he won my heart by it, & I hope to God he will never one day of his life forget his uncle.

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\* Horatio Nelson, Viscount Merton, 1788-1808, only son of William, 1st Earl Nelson.  
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‘Had you not mentioned, I shou’d most certainly have waited on you immediately after the ceremony. It is a duty, and with me a sacred one, to do all and everything which he cou’d wish, were it possible for him to look down and direct. My heart pays a grateful tribute for the kind expressions in your letter. I honour your feelings, and I respect you, dear Lady Hamilton, for ever.’

860. A. L. S. from the same to the same. Dated Admiralty, ‘Wednesday night,  $\frac{1}{2}$ -past 12 o’clock’ (January 8th, 1806). 2 $\frac{1}{2}$  pages 4to. [P.]

‘I am sorry not to be able to write oftener to you, and more at length ; however, just now I sent Mr. Beckwith, foreman to Mr. France,\* who has throughout conducted the business—he can tell you everything minutely. I hope he will get in, though it is now very late. Nothing ever was equal to the affection shewn for your poor hero. One trait I must tell you ; the very beggars left their stands, neglected the passing crowd, and seemed to pay tribute to his memory by a look—many did I see, tattered and on crutches, shaking their heads with plain signs of sorrow. This must be truly the unbought affection of the heart.

‘I should never have made any request of the kind to the Earl, but merely as a tribute of affection to the name of Nelson ; to no other nobleman in the land would I be Chaplain, nor indeed could I, with any propriety, ask the Prince of Wales to be Chaplain to any one else, without whose particular leave no Chaplain of his could presume to belong to any one else also. Your poor Nelson, upon his first vacancy, intended to speak to the Prince about it, and to have nominated me. I wished it earnestly, not for any nasty material good of this world, but because it drew my connexion closer with him ; it was a matter, therefore, I did press with him, as he knew it could be no advantage to me, already Chaplain to the Prince, and entitled therefore to all privileges which it affords. But indeed, my dear Lady Hamilton, I would never have talked on this subject while dear Lord Nelson remained unburied, but for the information I had that the Earl was already arranging his Chaplains. Meeting him, I wished to put him on his guard, as he might otherwise have forgot my *prior* claim to any one ; but in all this do you but approve of my conduct, and I care little for the rest in this world.

‘Sir E. Nepean was here just now, and cried very much—most sincerely ; had the man not been in office, I would have taken him by the hand for it—nay, embraced him. Every thought and word I have is about your dear Nelson. I have him now before me, dear Lady Hamilton ; here lies Bayard—but Bayard victorious—*sans peur et sans reproche*. This is my motto for an emblem to be worn by those who cherish his memory—it might be interwoven in a sprig of gold laurel. Dear Lady Hamilton, speak to some of your sex about it. *Sans peur et sans reproche*. So help me God, as I think he was a true knight and worthy the age of chivalry—one may say—*lui même fait le siècle*—for where shall we see another? When I think, setting aside his heroism, what an affectionate, fascinating little fellow he was, how dignified and pure his mind, how kind and condescending his manners, I become stupid with grief for what I have lost. Pardon my scrawl. Your devoted servant,’ &c.

861. A. L. S. from the same to the same. Dated ‘Wednesday night, or rather Thursday morning’ (January 9th,† 1806). 1 page 4to., with Superscription. [H.]

‘Mr. Beckwith has just come back, and I learn he did not see you from the lateness of the hour. I sent him only to give you a minute detail of every thing which he must be better acquainted with than any one else. I came from Greenwich with our dearest Lord in the same boat. I am grievously vexed that tomorrow I am all day so far removed from him by my place in the procession. I cannot with ease bear this separation ; but there is no help for it. To the last I could have wished to have been near him. God bless you and give you rest,’ &c.

\* The undertaker employed by Government.

† The day of Nelson’s funeral.

862. A. L. S. from the same to the same. Dated Great Portland Street, January 26th, 1806. 2 pages 4to., with Superscription and Seal. [H.]

*'Imbroglia qui ci sta*—what am I to do? The Viscountess Perceval\* has invited me to dinner, but I understood it was a party of your making, & that you were to be there. To-day I learn in Clarges Street that you dine at Brompton—*questo mi mortifica*—because, but for the expectation of seeing you to-day, I wou'd have been with you yesterday evening; do not blame me, therefore, for not having been at Brompton.

'I shall go to Curzon Street at 6 o'clock; if I find myself expected, well, if not, I will come on to you. Lady E. Forster enquires after you earnestly, & Horatia, whom you promised to shew her. I dined with Col. Bosville yesterday in Welbeck Street, and any how cou'd not have reached Brompton until late. Young Lind says I was expected at his mother's on Thursday evening, after our dinner at Mr. Deputy Birch's. Pray have me excused in this case, for not one of them ever asked me. On Friday I dined in company with Hardy a little way out of town, and cou'd not possibly reach you that evening. And so you have my journal ever since I saw you. Oh! I forgot! On Wednesday I dined with Mr. Browel, of the Lord Chamberlain's office, at six o'clock, & cou'd not get away until 12.

'Do not think I forget or neglect you, for I cou'd be with you much happier & more pleased than in most other places. And so—

'Good appetite, and good afternoon to you, my dear Lady Hamilton. I saw the Duke of Clarence† yesterday in Pall Mall, who stopped me—shook hands with me, and enquired after you particularly, or it wou'd not be worth mentioning. I believe he really lov'd my Lord sincerely. Ever truly your,' &c.

863. A. L. S. from the Rt. Hon. George Rose to the same. Dated Old Palace Yard, January 27th, 1806. 2 pages 4to. [H.]

'Deeply as I am affected by the recent loss I have sustained in the death of Mr. Pitt, I cannot omit to express to you my sincere and deep regret that I had not a possible opportunity of fulfilling the engagement, which the veneration I have for the memory of Lord Nelson induced me to make with you in my letter from Cuffnell's after I had seen Captain Hardy.

'I had no alarm about Mr. Pitt's health till it was decided he should leave Bath, but on my seeing him at Putney Heath I found him so ill as to preclude my talking to him on any business whatever. Sir Walter Farquhar,‡ indeed, had positively prohibited any one from doing so.

'I shall certainly not remain in office; & respecting arrangements that are about to take place I know nothing. No one can be in more utter ignorance of them than I am, but if it shall happen that any representation of mine to any of those who may fill the Departments of Government can have the remotest chance of being useful to you, it shall not be wanting. I am persuaded, however, Lord Nelson's last and solemn appeal to his country for justice to be done to your claim will be the best possible support to it.

'I will have the honour of waiting on you some morning in the course of the next week. I have the honour to be,' &c.

864. A. L. S. from Sir William Bolton to his wife. Dated H.M.S. *Eurydice*, February 2nd, 1806, off Cadiz. 1½ pages 4to. [P.]

'I have but a few minutes' leisure to assure you of my constant affection to

\* Bridget Wynne, Lady Percival, only daughter of Lieut.-Col. Wynne, and wife of the 4th Earl of Egmont. She died in 1826.

† William Henry, Duke of Clarence, afterwards William IV., 1765–1837. He succeeded his brother, George IV., on the throne in 1830.

‡ Sir Walter Farquhar, 1738–1819, a London physician who, after being created a Baronet in 1796, was appointed Physician-in-Ordinary to the Prince of Wales, and rapidly took a high place in his profession. In 1813 he partially withdrew from practice.



you & my Emma, as indeed to all my near and dear relations. It would have in a great measure contributed towards my present ease (happiness is now out of the question) to have received a few letters from you, the more so as I have not received one of a later date than the latter end of August last. I was in hopes our present Commander-in-Chief would (from his professions) have behaved in a handsome manner, but I am now convinced policy was the only inducement. I am very anxious to learn the truth respecting the affairs on the Continent. Every vessel we speak gives us a different account, tho' I still pin my faith in the *Gazette* account of the defeat of Napoleon on the 3rd and 4th of Dec<sup>r</sup>, which was brought out by the *Alcmene*, tho' she brought no letters. I was recalled into the fleet yesterday, and expect to remain for a time attached to it. I have no desire now but to see home as soon as possible, yet shall take no steps untill I hear further from one of my fathers. It was formerly a pleasure to serve, it is now become a toil. I feel no longer inclined to forfeit my happiness, but regret every moment of absence from my country. My love to my brothers and sisters, & duty to my parents, I am, &c.

865. A. L. S. from Mrs. Cadogan to Lady Hamilton. Dated Merton, February 13th (1806). 1 page 4to., with Superscription and Seal. [P.]

'I will not show them one bill or receipt; I will tell them you have them locked up. Some were as Cribbe\* has sumed it up. I have receipts for thirteen hundred pounds, besides the last forty-two. Mrs. Cribbe advises me not to show them till you have seen them. On Saturday I shall send Sarah with them, as Frances comes to town. I had a very canting letter from Haslewood yesterday saying the Earl & him was coming down to-day. God bless you,' &c.

'P.S.—I will write and tell you all to-morrow, if it is too late to-night for the post.'

866. A. L. S. from Rev. A. J. Scott to the same. Dated St. John's College, Cambridge, February 19th, 1806. 1½ pages 4to., with Superscription and Seal. [H.]

'I suppose you are well acquainted with my being at this place, which accounts for my non-appearance for some days. Supposing hourly I should set off for town, I have deferred writing to you, to tell you that the University are about to petition the King to grant me a D.D. degree by mandamus. You will be delighted, I think, in knowing this, as it marks attention to the memory of our dear Lord. The matter has been some time in agitation, but I think now is pretty well fixed. It was necessary that all should join in the business—I mean all the Heads of Colleges; this they have now done. I remain for ten days longer, by which time it will be finished, and I shall return to you with all the dignity of a Doctor of Divinity. I thought the whole could not be completed before July, when the commencement is, and therefore was removing to London; but I now am given to understand that it can be done as soon as the King has signed the mandate. So much for plans and projects, &c., &c. But I write chiefly to give some account of myself & tell you that I constantly remember you, and that no selfish consideration can supersede the regard and attachment which I bear you.

'Pray kiss Horatia for me, and let her not forget the sound of my name. Make my respects to the Earl and Countess, Lady Charlotte, and those who recollect me; to Mr. Bolton and his wife many kind and true expressions of regard, with Anne, Miss O'Connor, and Mrs. Voller, if with you. With respect and affection,' &c.

867. A. L. S. from Rev. C. Este to Lady Charlotte Nelson. No date (1806). 1½ pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'Will you, if you please, be so good as to mention that, among other courtesies

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\* Cribb was the gardener at Merton.

from your illustrious, your ever to be lamented uncle, he let me put into his cabin a few of my old books? Books otherwise of no account, but hence, indeed, become inestimable in my sight.

'Now, may I beg to be obliged with one or two of them back again? If not disagreeable, what I should wish would be Boswell's *Life of Johnson*, and the *Little Comedies of Foote*; for, added to the fond veneration of them thus as relicks, they are the works of those I knew—one a little, the other a great deal. Adieu, dear Lady Charlotte, & with the best good wishes, may you & your brother ever try to resemble your unrival'd uncle in the purity, the exaltation, the captivation of your heart. I know not how I can wish you more.'

868. Document S. 'Nelson.' A receipt from the Earl Nelson to Lady Hamilton. Dated February 22nd, 1806. 1 page 4to. [P.]

'Received this 22nd day of February, 1806, of the Right Honble. Emma, Lady Hamilton, the following articles belonging to the late Lord Viscount Nelson, viz. :—The diamond aigrette presented to his Lordship by the Grand Signior, the sword presented to him by the Captains who fought at the Battle of the Nile, the diamond sword presented to him by the King of the Two Sicilies, and the collar of the Order of the Bath.'

869. A. L. S. from Robert Keen to the same. Dated Rye, Sussex, March 25th, 1806. 3½ pages 4to., with Superscription and Seal. [P.]

'You will, I fear, think me ungrateful not to have written you to thank you for your attention to my girls when in town. The sensibility and warmth of your heart, I know, receives pleasure whenever you have it in your power to extend the hand of benevolence to those labouring under affliction. Our dear departed hero knew well how to value its merit, and had it been the will of Providence to have blessed him with a longer continuance in this world, your mutual influence would have been felt by thousands. What a blessing would it have been for him and his family had he escaped the union with that horrid temper'd woman, Lady Nelson; my own situation teaches me how to feel for and pity him. Great God! what he must have suffer'd from her horrid inventions and worst of dispositions; he, I trust, in Heaven, has his reward, and she, I hope, will receive her punishment.'

'The Markhams and Tuckers have begun with me already. The order which Lord Barham gave me to commence payment from the date, is order'd *not* to be paid from the date, but from my appearance. By its being payable from the date it prevented my coming to this place immediately, & gave me leave to remove my family without coming here first; & tho' it cost me 200*l.* to place four children at school & remove nearly 300 miles, the Board think it worth while to take 30*l.* from me, which is all the difference it makes. I prayed Lord Barham & Mr. Tompion not to give me employment, knowing the system of persecution I was to experience from the present Board, but to give me my promotion & leave me undisturbed with my little family; but I could not be heard. It is my intention to be in London soon if I can obtain leave, but for the present the absence of Capt. Schomberg—who is the commanding officer—being in London, my absence will be impossible. I was very sorry to see in the papers the illness of the Dutchess of Devonshire; the affliction our very amiable friend, Lady Foster, must suffer on such an occasion will, I am sure, be severe, for I think your Ladyship must agree with me she is a most charming, benevolent disposition, tho' I will not say more least your Ladyship shou'd suspect me of flattery, tho' I hope you will be assured of every sincerity when I assure that I remain, with ever respect,' &c.

'P.S.—My two daughters desire their kind regards to your Ladyship, & unite with me in the most sincere wishes for your health, with our compliments to all the family under your hospitable roof.'

'This is but a poor place, full of military lodgings, intolerable, bad, & dear; tho' a fishing town, the badness of the weather has hitherto deprived us of that necessary, tho' I hope we shall soon be able to give you a specimen of its produce in that way.'



870. A. L. S. from Mrs. Cadogan to the same. Dated March 29th, 1806. 2 pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'I have enclosed to you Cribb's account he brought me from Haslewood the other day. Let me know whether you have a copy of the will or not, as I understand the executors are to pay every expence for six months after his death. Pray write me word whether you have employed a lawyer against Haslewood; let me, in particular, for if you have not I will. I am well informed of the measure the land your house stands upon, and will not allow the pleasure ground that is taken in, that you have a right to take in what part you like of Linton's farm, and leave out what you like of the Wimbledon estate. Write me every particular that I may not be taken unawares. Don't you think if you was to write to Mr. Goldsmid,\* and let me know very particularly who I am to apply to. I was in hopes Mr. Bolton would have been here at the time. Pray, my dear Emma, let me know whether you have answered Mr. Roberts's bill or not, as I shall write to Mr. Roberts and Mrs. Burt. I should not be surprized if [I] was to see Mr. Kidd come up with Mr. Hughes, but if he does he never sleeps in the house where I do. I had a letter from poor Mrs. Dodsworth yesterday to say she should come to Merton to-day. I am very glad of it, as poor Sarah & me has not the newspapers now, and the weather very wet and dirty one cannot get out. God bless you,' &c.

'P.S.—S. Reynold's love to all.'

871. A. L. S. from Sir Alexander Ball to the same. Marked 'Duplicate.' No date (postmark, March 31st, 1806). 2 pages 4to., with Superscription and Seal. [P.]

'By the time this will probably reach your Ladyship, I hope you will in some measure have recovered from the shock caused by the irreparable loss of our immortal Nelson. In him we have to bewail the death of our best friend, and the public that of their greatest hero. The nation was sensible of his inestimable talents and worth before he was snatched from us. I cannot but lament that it was not ordained that he should live a few years with us and witness the plaudits of a grateful nation, and enjoy the society of his much-attached friends. I have to entreat you to continue to command my services whenever they can be useful.

'Their Sicilian Majesties are once more doomed to quit their Neapolitan dominions, and take refuge at Palermo. They will now more deeply feel the loss of their confidential friends, the Hamiltons and Nelson.

'I hope you will do me the favour of answering this, and that you will be assured of the respect and esteem of,' &c.

872. A. L. S. from Mr. Abraham Goldsmid to the same. Dated Finsbury Square, April 8th, 1806. 3 pages 4to. [H.]

'I had the pleasure yesterday to receive a few lines from you; am happy you are well, but am sorry your spirits are not yet recovered; hope shortly to see you, & to tell me that it is the Will of Providence to him. It is our duty to content ourselves, and on mature reflection you'll be convinced that it was done for the good of those he esteemed, & his time was to die, and if not by a shot you might have lost him by sickness, and then his feelings would not have been fulfilled according to his own wishes, which, to me, I am sure of. Now for business, & please to keep it to yourself and Mr. Bolton. I have been, as you suppose, most busily employed respecting the late loan of which, my dear Lady, you have a third of 6000, which is neat amt 2000, being divided into 3 parts; of course, every person has a third, being after battling about coalition took place, but have never

\* Abraham Goldsmid, *circa* 1756–1810, a Jewish financier of Dutch birth, whose father settled in London. After carrying through many enormous transactions, he fell into difficulties and committed suicide. The news of his death caused Consols to fall from 65½ to 63½, and one of the papers of the day questioned whether peace or war, suddenly made, ever caused such a bustle as the death of Mr. Goldsmid.

lost sight of Mr. Bolton & Mr. Matcham. I have seen and conversed with all the parties, and pushed all I could. The answer from L<sup>d</sup> G. was, he meant to give to Mr. B. 10,000*l.* at his disposal, & 10,000 to Mr. M. for his disposal. My answer was that, as Mr. M. they might be an apology for such a sum, but as to Mr. B. I hoped & trusted they would give at least 20,000 ready money, exclusive of a respectable place under Government for Mr. B. Mr. Vansittart answer was, that he admired my zeal in the promotion the welfare of the late L<sup>d</sup> Nelson family; but they had a deal to contend with, which was the service of the late Duke of Marlborough. My answer was, that I look it much more, and no example whatever, as times stood, required more exertion than the present. My final answer I have not received, but expect, in a week or ten days, to know the result of Lord Grenville; but as to a place for Mr. Bolton, he agreed it ought to be done, and no doubt, if any confidence is to be placed in ministers—it will be so. I think that Mr. B. ought to be here in London the latter end of next week at farthest, that I may have him at hand. Yours, &c.

'Excuse all faults, as I have not a minute to spare, & hardly know what I have written, therefore take the will for the deed.'

873. A. L. S. from Mrs. Bolton to the same. Dated 'Tuesday, noon' (April 22nd, 1806). 3 pages 4to., with Superscription and Seal. [P.]

'What a blank you have made in our party. I went to bed far from well, and when we all met at dinner we were all in fears to see the *vacant* places, where so lately they had been filled with those so dear to us. Even poor Emma is constantly calling for you *all*; tell Horatia she wants to go to her bed in a morning. I am glad Mrs. Lind was with you on Sunday evening, as she is very cheerful, and, I know, very fond of you. I do not wonder at Mrs. Pierson's liking her.

'The girls are now busy in preparing for Miss Hethersett's ball next Monday; she is of age, therefore she may now marry Mr. Dashwood if she chuses. Poor Captain Hooke has lost his favourite sister; poor thing, she has been long in a declining state, he could scarcely hope to find her alive at his return. We now see no papers therefore from you; we hope to hear news. I hope the old adage here will not prove true—delays are dangerous. Do you hear nothing of your own business? Believe we [are] all as much interested in that as our own affairs. Tell Mrs. Pierson we have no letters from Brancaster yet. You were very good to have poor Tom; it gives me great pleasure to hear he is improved. I wish I could say anything cheerful or that would entertain you even for a moment; but this place produces nothing but love and respect for you from all this family. We all join in kind love to dear Horatia & all the party. Believe me, &c.

874. A. L. S. from Mrs. Cadogan to the same. Dated Merton, April 26th, 1806. 1 $\frac{3}{4}$  pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'I pray God send you many happy returns of this day. I have sent you a gown of Sarah Reynolds's making. If I had ten thousand pounds to send you this day, I should have been very happy. I have sent Mariann, as I thought she might be of use to you to-day. I am all over with bricks and dust and stinking paint, being no-body but our own family. On Saturday you shall have a *menesstra verde* and one thing roasted. Mariann will tell you how miserable I have been this week.

'My dear Emma, I owe Mariann 4 months' wages, which is two guines; I had it not to give her, and she want shoes and stockings. If you can, give Sarah Conner thirty shillings to pay her washer-woman, as she is indebted to her for three months' washing; I have got her washing down here. You must send Mariann as soon as you can in the morning.

'God bless you, my ever dear Emma, &c.

[\* 'I wish you many happy returns of this day. I should have been very

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\* The portion in square brackets is from Sarah Reynolds.



happy had it been in my power to have made you a small present on this day, but not having anything but what my dear aunt and you have been so good as to give me. I wish it had been in my power ; I should have been very happy, believe me, my dear Lady Hamilton. With gratitude and thank for what you have done for me and my dear father and family. God bless you, dear Lady Hamilton.']

875. A. L. S. from Mrs. Bolton to the same. No date (May 13th, 1806).  
3 pages 4to., with Superscription and Seal. [P.]

'I hope, my dear Lady, after your kind and unexpected favour at Akenham, you have not thought me neglectfull in not answering it before ; but I have been upon the move so much, that I have scarcely had time enough to myself to write. I am sorry to say we found the poor invalid even worse than we expected ; if she goes on in the same way as she has done for the last fortnight, she cannot continue many weeks. You may suppose the wretched state her poor mother is in. We left Beca there for a week or two, and then Susanna is to take her place, as we are resolved not to leave them alone at this time. Poor Maryanne was pleased when I told her you desired to be remembered to her. From thence I went to my cousin Taylor's, who was quite disappointed she had not the pleasure of seeing you at Nouham ; she is the same cheerful creature she ever was. My aunt Rolfe wish'd very much to see Horatia, & so did Mrs. Taylor ; she says every one ought to adore that *child* ; give our kind love to her ; tell her Emma tries to imitate her attitudes every day.

'You have indeed introduced Anne into the great world ; she will, [I] trust, improve by it, & see how necessary it is to [be] well educated to be even possible in those great circles. I hear Mrs. Rolf's presents are very much admired by the ladies of Swaffham ; I knew they would be handsome where you was concerned. Are not all your ideas noble ? When will the Earl's affairs be settled ? very strange, is it not ? Lord Duckworth's pension is settled I see.

'Susanna wishes to hear from her father, to whom give all our loves, & accept the same with your sincere & affectionate friend.'

876. A. L. S. from Captain Hardy to the same. Dated *Triumph*, May 14th, 1806. 2 pages 4to. [P.]

'As you will not write to me, I cannot sail without again repeating to you how happy I shall be at all times to attend to your wishes, and whenever you want to send a young friend to sea I will take him with pleasure. I took the command of this ship yesterday, and we sail under the command of Sir Richd. Strachan\* on Saturday. I have written to the Earl by this post, and as I do not know where he lives, I have directed it to Clarges Street. The letter is giving him an account of the arrival of his wine at Portsmouth. I beg my best love to Horatia, and best compliments to Mrs. Cadogan and Mr. & Mrs. Boulton. I remain, with great truth, &c.

877. A. L. S. from Mrs. Matcham to the same. Dated 'Wednesday Morning' (May 15th, 1806). 2 pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'I thank you much for your kind letter, which came very fortunately, as Mr. M. intended to go for a few days on a visit to Sir Chas. Malet this morning. He will now stay only one or two nights at Wilbury, and go from thence to town, as

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\* Sir Richard Strachan, 1760-1828, entered the Navy at an early age, succeeded to the Baronetcy in 1777, and took post rank in 1783. He distinguished himself on the East India station and off Ferrol, where he took four French ships which had escaped from the battle of Trafalgar. He was shortly afterwards promoted to the rank of Rear-Admiral of the Red, in 1810 became Vice-Admiral of the Blue, and in 1821 a full Admiral, and obtained a pension of 1000*l.* a year.

you seem to think he should be in London when this business is brought forward. What a winter, my dear Lady Hamilton, have I spent, & I am sorry to own *even now* I cannot bring myself to look forward with pleasure to anything that can happen. God knows, nothing can ever make up to *me and mine* for *our loss*. I can only say, God's will be done; but I feel quite heart-broken, as my good man will tell you. Bath has been very gay; young Betty\* has been performing here for a fortnight. I went one night only to see him, and was much entertained; his manners are more elegant than any one could imagine. He is a *wonderful boy*, but I doubt his progressive improvement with his years. His voice is quite gone, and it is said he is in very bad health. I have no news to write about, as I never go into the gay world.' Pray remember me to Mrs. Pierson. I suppose her little girl is grown quite out of my knowledge. She must be a nice companion for Horatia, who, I am glad to find, is so quick at her studies. Pray tell her not to forget *her aunt Matcham*. With my best love to all the party, I remain,' &c.

878. A. L. S. from Admiral Keats to the same. Dated *Superb*, Cawsand Bay, May 18th, 1806. 1 page 4to., with Superscription.  
[P.]

'The two inclosed letters were returned to me yesterday, and I avail myself again of Sir John Duckworth's politeness to convey them safely to you. They compleat the number addressed by you to my care. Two I enclosed to you from off Cadiz, five are under another cover with Sir John Duckworth, and the two in this make seven. I sincerely hope you have recovered your health and spirits.

'I have the honour to be,' &c.

879. A. L. S. from Miss R. Bolton to her sister Mrs. Pierson. Dated Colchester, May 21st (1806). 3 pages 4to., with Superscription.  
[P.]

'I left Akenham at twelve o'clock yesterday; poor Mary Ann was very bad and my aunt almost distracted. It was distressing to me to leave her at such a time, but Mrs. Andrews was waiting at Ipswich for me. Mrs. King returned in the chaise which brought me to Ipswich. Tom returned to Ipswich again in the evening to inform me Mary Ann was better, she was sensible, and wished to see her mother, which she had not done for some time, as it was too distressing to my aunt to see her in such a state. I was with her all Monday; it was a dreadful day to me; she was delirious and yet at times perfectly sensible. Mrs. Hitch and my aunt could not bear to be in the room, indeed she would not suffer them in her sight. My spirits were kept up whilst I was there by my endeavours to be of assistance; now I am away I feel more, for I can think of nothing else. I wrote to my mother on Sunday begging she would come to my aunt if it was possible.

'I have this moment received a letter from Lady Bolton. My mother, Susanna, and herself, she informs me, are just arrived at Akenham. Mary Ann is still composed, but they had none of them seen her. My mother remains some days there; we are to see Kitty and Emma here this evening on their way to town; it is a great satisfaction to me that my aunt has somebody with her, I know she particularly wished for my mother.

'Mrs. Smith was at Ipswich on Monday; she called at Mrs. King's, who told her how ill Mary Ann was, and that Mrs. Andrews had better not go on to Akenham as she intended, but that I should meet her at Ipswich.

'Mrs. Smith acquainted Mrs. Andrews with it, saying my cousin was not expected to live till the next day, which my aunt Andrews interpreted she was

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\* William Henry West Betty, 1791-1874, better known as the 'Young Roscius.' An actor whose first appearance took place in 1803, and his last as a boy actor in 1808. After being put under private tuition, he went to Christ's College, Cambridge, but returned to the stage in 1812. In 1824 he found it expedient to retire, and passed the remainder of his life in the quiet enjoyment of the large fortune he had amassed in his youth.



dead, and when she called on Mrs. Clarke she told her so ; we called on her again to inform her of the mistake, but she had already written it to Mrs. Clarke, and my aunt wrote a few lines to my father to contradict it ; she begged I would explain it to you. Mr. Andrews is very angry, as he had told Mrs. Henry of it.

'You may expect to hear of her death very soon, though she may last some days. I hope for my aunt's sake it will soon be over.

'I am afraid I have dwelt too long on this unpleasant subject ; you must excuse me. It gave me great pleasure to hear you were so much better ; I hope to hear you are quite strong. Pray write me word of Caroline's improvements, I hope she does not forget her musick. I am quite at a loss for musick here, as my uncle is so fond of it, and I have none with me ; if you could manage and send me some from Miss Marshall I should like it, but do not trouble yourself ; I shall borrow what I can of Eliza Smith. Kitty tells me my brother is not expected in London till next Wednesday ; you may suppose how glad I was to hear of his safe arrival, and how happy shall I be to see him.

'Pray remember me to all your party, and believe me,' &c.

880. A. L. S. from Mrs. Bolton to Lady Hamilton. Dated 'Cranwich, Monday morn' (May 26th, 1806). 2½ pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'By the waggon on Saturday I sent your linnen from Mrs. Betts ; 3 doz. & 3 towells, 4 pr. sheets, Anne great coat, & some drawings belonging to her master. By this day's coach Eliza has sent you a box with rugs, which she hopes you will most graciously accept as her work. By not having heard from you this week I was afraid you were not quite the thing, but Mrs. Pierson's letter to-day says you are much as usual—I wish she could have said better. Your very agreeable intelligence found us at Saham, Mrs. Rolfe never looking better. I hear Miss Yonge means to return with Miss Burton into Shropshire ; the Archdeacon thinks her too *young to marry yet*.

'I am glad to hear Anne is at Merton. Mrs. Pierson has said the *cause* ; she will, I have no doubt, be quite well now. Remember me kindly to Mrs. Cadogan. As to Mr. Bolton, I know not what he is about, he never writes to *me*. I hope you will ; I feel quite uncomfortable this week not having heard from you. I hope you are certain that I am,' &c.

'P. S.—Love to all your circle.'

881. A. L. S. from the same to the same. Dated 'Thursday, noon' (May 29th, 1806). 3 pages 4to., with Superscription.

'How good you are, my dear lady, to write to me so frequently with such flattering accounts as you give me of all my friends. They are much delighted with Merton and your reception as you can with them. I am happy the proper steps are going to be taken about the codicil ; what a shame it was not done long *since*. Why not accept the offer of going with the Earl and Countess to the sea ? It may amuse for a time, and you can leave them whenever you chuse. If you come to Cromer I may have a chance of seeing *you*. We have had Mr. Tom Bolton of Akenham with us this week. He says Dr Cluble says Mary Anne is a very different complaint from what was supposed—an abscess on the liver. I have seen Mr Edwards. He looks as if he was going to the grave. Madam is fat and vulgar as ever. I do not like her. Madame Partridge is come here, but I have not seen her. What a pleasing description did you give of the employments of all the party, & so just that if you had not said their names I could have known them all by their employments. For a *moment* I wish'd myself with you, & but a moment, for I cannot think of Merton without a broken heart, even now can scarcely see for *tears*. *How I do feel for you* my own heart can tell ; but I beg pardon for mentioning the subject, nor would it have been but that I well know your thoughts are always *so*. My dear Horatia, give my kindest love to her. The more I *think*, the dearer she is to me.

'I am glad Mrs Cadogan likes my little Emma. I long to hear what her father thinks of her. I wish I had anything amusing to tell you, but we see nothing at Cranwich, and never move from it. God bless you. Yours,' &c.

882. A. L. S. from the same to the same. Dated 'Cranwich, Friday, noon' (June 6th, 1806). 2½ pages 4to., with Superscription and Seal. [P.]

'Shall I be glad to see you? (how could you ever for a joke write such words?) that I shall and all your party. You know my accomodations here are the same as you left. I wish they were better, but a cheerfull heart and a hearty welcome you will be sure to find. By a letter from my sister yesterday, I find the Vicountess is going to law. What for, to enrich that son of hers; for depend on it, she will not gain a sixpence, if so much income. What a vindictive woman she is? Disputes even the last words of the man she once *pretended* to love. She has changed her mourning, & is off for Cheltenham. I hope it will purge away all her sins. I would not have been with you at the parting for anything. Poor Kate and you, I felt for very much indeed. Had I been with you I should not have been a *comforter*. Poor M<sup>rs</sup> Matcham seems very low. She has not left off her mourning yet. They do not think of quitting Bath this summer. What a rage the Earl will be in indeed to have such a wicked report about him and the little woman will *draw up* with such *disdain*.

'Give my kindest love to M<sup>rs</sup> Cadogan. I wish she would be of your party.

'God bless you, my dear Lady, and believe me at all times, yours,' &c.

883. A. L. S. from the same to the same. No date (June 7th, 1806). 3 pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'Thank you, thank you, my dear Lady, for your long and descriptive letter. How I felt for you at the meeting, I thought of you all day. But how good you were to stifle your own feelings to enjoy the happiness of others. Believe me, they all saw and grieved with you for the *cause*, but no more on that subject. My niece, Emily, who is with me, is much pleased at what you say *about Lady Bolton*. She wished much to know your opinion what would be the *result* of so short an interview.

'How comes the Earl not to be in town at the birthday—surely he ought. What use is the Codicil to him? He cannot fear it should be any *detriment* to him *now*.

'I hear they are going to spend some time at Yarmouth this month; at least, so Lady Charlotte writes to her cousin. You may be sure it is in the neighbourhood of their friends the Berneys. They are the last people I should wish to be near, were I in their place after what has been talked of.

'Give my kind love to Mrs. Cadogan. She is beloved by all. I am glad Mr. Bolton has had his tooth out (poor Emily has done the same). I shall be glad when the agents are fixed, for I think the farm will want him, but I would not have him come here before on no considerations.

'Tell Kate, tho' I do not write, I congratulate her most cordially: to Sir W<sup>m</sup> I have written. Susanna is still in the house of mourning.

'You ask me to write, but I think you will be tired of reading. Eliza begs I will give her kind love to you & Mrs. Cadogan. How is Anne? We all join in kind love to you and all the party. God bless you, and believe me your,' &c.

'Was Anne's bill ever paid or will they not allow it?'

884. A. L. S. from the same to the same. Dated 'Cranwich, June 20th,' (1806). 2½ pages 4to., with Superscription and Seal. [P.]

'I was in hopes to have announced the arrival of Mr. & Mrs. Bolton, but not a word have we heard from them. Beca arrived here yesterday from Akenham. She left poor Mrs. Bolton very low indeed. Susanna is gone to Mrs. Taylor's to spend a short time, & has promised to return to her aunt again, but when she hears of your arrival I am sure she will wish to return home. What is the Viscountess thinking of a lawsuit for twenty years, what is [she] desirous of getting? I rather think she is in Suffolk on a visit to Lady Riddleton, as Beca thought she saw her at Colchester. Mr. Comyns has just been here; come to consult Mr.



Bolton about tythes. He says *Madame* cannot walk since the first week in July. I hear the Earl, &c., are coming to Hilborow, but what do we care? I hope you will bring all the party down with you we had in the spring & Tom added to them. Kiss dear Horatia, & tell her how happy her aunt Bolton will be to see her. When will good Mrs. Cadogan perform her promise of visiting me. I hope I shall see you in the course of next week. Give me two days' notice, that I may have something in the *pot* for dinner. How good you are for writing! I wish I could entertain you as well. God bless you, my dear friend.'

885. A. L. S. from the same to the same. Dated 'Cranwich, June 29th' (1806). 3 pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'I was glad to find by your letter that you had nearly fixed the day for coming into Norfolk. We think the time long now till you arrive. Susanna is here, busy in preparing for you; at least, to have things as comfortable as we can for you. I think Lady Charlotte will make a conquest worth having at Cambridge. They are generally men of fortune that stay the commencement; but the Earl will look sharp after his daughter, none but men of fashion must have her, unless, indeed, Mr. Berney will condescend; but I hope Charlotte will have too much spirit for that. Eliza and her cousin are gone to Suffolk to be confirmed by the Bishop to-day. Poor Mr. Bayley came in to me just now crying most bitterly, some officious person had told him we were going to leave Cranwich. He knows very well Mrs. W<sup>m</sup> Bolton will take care of him, but he don't like parting. Your message to-day came just in time to comfort him. He is determined to have a clean face the day you arrive, and be dressed, "but you know, mame, my Lady can't expect I should be so every day." Whether he expects y<sup>r</sup> Ladyship is to kiss him or what, I don't know. I am happy to hear you are pleased with Anne, but should hope she is so sensible of your goodness to her as always to be grateful and good. Give my love to Mr. Bolton. Tell him he has not done his part towards helping to accomodate you. I sent down twice to the Waggon, but nothing for me. Our sheep-shearing was yesterday. Susanna's love to her sister. She has not time to write, but will be obliged to her to make sure of the young ladies when they go to town to get her a hat to ride, to walk in, the very prettiest of the kind she can procure. She knows what she has now got; it is *not proper* for either.

'Will you excuse my troubling you with a message. We beg our kindest love to you and all your party.

'The Earl and Countess will be at Hilborow on Thursday.'

886. A. L. S. from the Rt. Hon. George Rose to the same. Dated Old Palace Yard, July 3rd, 1806. 1 page 4to. [H.]

'I have made arrangements for to-morrow that would render it really inconvenient for me to wait on you while you are in town. I would, however, break in upon these to call in Clarges Street if I have a chance of being useful to you, but I am certain I cannot. What I have repeatedly suggested I am more and more confirmed in, that the difficulty in affording you relief is increased to a great extent by the length of time that has elapsed since your claim arose, in which period there have been three administrations. If you cannot obtain attention to it now, I am sure you had better think no more of it. I do not say this from indifference in the subject, but from an anxiety that you should not continue to entertain a hope that must (if you do not immediately obtain relief) end in disappointment. Lord Nelson's codicil, I think, affords a ground for making a last attempt.'

887. A. L. S. from Sir Thomas Louis to the same. Dated Cademill, Newton Abbot, July 22nd, 1806. 1½ pages 4to, with Superscription. [P.]

'I have been very often in the act of sitting down to write to you to say that

your youngster had joined the *Canopus*, and that he shall be taken care of. He is a very fine boy, and no doubt will do well.

'I hope you are now enjoying yourself at Merton, the prettiest place in the world, and in the way, if possible, to make it more so, I say nothing about the comfort, because I know whatever you undertake will succeed. I hope Lady Bolton has had another interview with Sir William, as I saw a few days since in the papers his ship's arrival. I wish them joy and every happiness with all my heart.

'And now for yourself. I hope you are doing well, and will receive everything you are so truly deserving of in my opinion, and I sincerely hope all your expectations and wishes may be gratified. I beg you to remember me very kindly to Mrs. Cadogan and all yours I am known to with many sincere regards.

'P.S.—Don't you forget me in the request I made some time ago. I shall soon join *Canopus*, as I understand she will be out of dock the beginning of next month, when I will attend to *your protégée*.

888. A. L. S. from Sir Thomas Duckworth to the same. Dated Stoke, Plymouth, August 7th, 1806.  $1\frac{1}{4}$  pages 4to., with Superscription and Seal. [P.]

'As I shall always have great pleasure in meeting your wishes, the trifling request about Charles Fox cannot fail to be attended to whenever he makes his appearance, and to it I will add every protection given. I was much mortified that attendance and dependence while in town, but that to no purpose, deprived me of the gratification of paying my compliments to you often at Merton, but as it appears we are about to patch up a peace, if that happens I shall then be at liberty to indulge my own feelings. A very great friend of mine, and an intelligent, pleasant gentleman, of the Island of Jamaica, having, during a three weeks' stay with me, expressed a great desire to be known to your Ladyship, I have presumed to give him a letter of introduction, from a conviction you are kindred souls. Mrs. King begs to be held in your Ladyship's remembrance, and I am, with real regard, my dear Lady Hamilton, your faithful friend.'

889. A. L. S. from Miss Eliza Bolton\* to her sister Anne. No date (1806).  $2\frac{1}{2}$  pages 8vo., with Superscription. [P.]

'I should have written to you before, but I waited till you returned from school. Tom tells me you get on very well in drawing, which I am very glad to hear. I was very much obliged to you for the pencils, which were very acceptable, though at this time I have nothing to copy. Susanna desires to say that you must take care of all the towells that come up with the things. There is one to-day. Lady Hamilton is very much obliged to you for your letter. Give my love to Miss Connor, and tell her I know nothing of the music she spoke of belonging to Mrs. Bartholomew. The last time I saw it was in Clarges Street, but I know nothing more. Give my love to Lady Charlotte, and thank her for the music which she sent me. My uncle and Mrs. Pearman left us to-day for Brancaster. Miss Smith is still with us, and stays till papa returns to town, when he takes her with him on a visit to a lady in town. I shall be very sorry to part with her. I assure [you] she is at present my music mistress till I get Becca. Love to all. I am, &c.

'2 couple of rabbits.

'A goose.

'A spare rib of pork.'

890. A. L. S. from Mr. Oliver to Lady Hamilton. Dated August 16th, 1806.  $1\frac{1}{2}$  pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'I have been to the White Horse, in Fetter Lane, and at the Golden Cross ;

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\* Eliza Ann Bolton, 3rd daughter of Mr. Thomas Bolton. She married the Rev. Henry Girdlestone, of Colton St. Andrew, Norfolk.



no such person is yet come by the Lynn coach. I have left a message, & shall be on the look out when he arrives. Mr. Salter don't know any one going to Plymouth, but will enquire. I shall see him off to that place, and in all things do your Ladyship's will and pleasure. Mr. Harrison is greatly beholden to your Ladyship for y<sup>r</sup> kind offer of assistance that he stands so much in need of. His affairs are quite desperate. Mr. Chapel has stopped the weekly allowance. No one but y<sup>r</sup> Ladyship can enable him to finish his work, and without some small assistance now, the whole must be spoiled. He wished to do honour to the work & justice to those who take it, all which, & saving him from ruin, depends on a few kind remarks from your Ladyship in his extremity, for which favour he will be thankful as long as he lives. Y<sup>r</sup> Ladyship has it in y<sup>r</sup> power thus to alleviate his numerous suffering family, for, when once *his work* is done, he can demand his money, & not before. I cannot go to Merton. Shall see the Duke, & deliver y<sup>r</sup> Ladyship's kind message.

'I have opened this letter to tell y<sup>r</sup> Ladyship that Mr. Dubois had franked his number. Francis came to town yesterday. Signora Madre was quite well. I hope this will find y<sup>r</sup> Ladyship in perfect health.

'Signor Racco Bovi has called. He goes next week to Naples, and will be glad to take any letters, &c. Mr. Harrison is here bewailing y<sup>r</sup> Ladyship's absence, & still more y<sup>r</sup> illness, as the greatest evil fortune.

'Mr. Matcham is gone to his new estate. Nanny has been here. I was out. She returns to-morrow. A man has called for 44 shillings, amount of a pair of boots for the coachman.

'Mr. Amyot has called.'

891. A. L. S. from Mrs. Peirson to the same. Dated Brancaster, August 26th, 1806. 3 pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'Your letter has made me more unhappy than I was before, which I thought impossible. How extraordinary that Susanna did not inform you of the state they were in, that you might have judged for yourself whether or not to have gone. We hope your fright has magnified the danger. My mother entreats that you will return to Brancaster with your party immediately, and wait till the danger is over. I cannot express how anxious I shall be till I hear your determination—do, my dear, my beloved friend, returns to us. We think, as you kept the dear Horatia from them, she is perfectly safe, therefore do not fret about it; if you make yourself ill you break my heart. We are much obliged to you for the care you have taken of Emily, and long to thank you in person. I shall send this off to Wells to-morrow morning early, that you may be sure to have it to-morrow, & then you may be with us the day after. I rode to Burnham last night, in hopes of finding a letter from you, & I could not have patience to wait the arrival of our snail-paced post. I was disappointed. I hope you will receive four letters which I forwarded to you yesterday, & one to-day, & four papers came last night, but not this evening.

'I have nothing new to tell you, except that Caroline was obliged to have a tooth drawn, & that I cried famously—foolishly I might say. Tell Emily my mother is much the same as when you left us, and that I shall not forgive her if she does not prevail on you to return to us. I hope you will not want much entreaty to oblige us all.

'My mother, Miss Bolton, &c., join me in kindest love. Do give me an opportunity of regaining your good opinion, which I know I sunk in the last few days, & you will find that you are dearer than ever to yours,' &c.

'Kiss Horatia for me & Caroline.'

With the above is the following A. L. S. from Miss M. Bolton to Lady Hamilton:—'My dear Lady Hamilton, come to us directly. I hope & think you can have taken no infection; we are not afraid, at any rate. Susannah certainly could not think it catching or she would have mentioned it at Swaffham, which, at all events, she ought to have done.

'We shall be expecting you Saturday and Sunday. The sea breezes, I hope, will keep us in health. I feel greatly obliged by your kind attention to Emily.

Why stop at Hilbro'! You must excuse me, but I do think you would have done better to have returned to us immediately. I have received a letter from M<sup>r</sup> Bolton this even<sup>g</sup>. All does not go on smoothly; M<sup>r</sup> Wilson, I believe, is not a very pleasant man. If the young ladies would pick up a parson to bring with them, he would be a welcome guest for a few weeks. Yours, &c.

892. A. L. S. from Mrs. Bolton to the same. Dated 'Cranwich, Friday noon' (September 19th, 1806). 3 pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'You are very kind indeed in writing me so many letters. I am glad to hear your invalid is getting better. How is good Mrs. Cadogan? What delightful weather for Merton. I was sure you would have as much company as you chose, wherever you were. Remember me to Mrs. Lind, if she asks after me. The Earl was here on Monday, came along in his carriage with his papers, red trunk, &c., to have some talk with Mr. Bolton, and was much vexed he was not at home. To-day I believe he & Archdeacon dine at old Dashwoods on venison and a pasty besides. The Countess, I believe, goes to Swaffham. The Earl expects to have a summons to Father Berney's, as soon as young Berney returns, for Ld. Merton, to stay a week or two with them on a shooting party, but the Earl means to stay a week with them. The ladies remain at Swaffham, so there is an end of my seeing them in Norfolk. What do you think of the *Braem party*. Mr. Comyns has just been here. He begs his best respects to you and all the party. He is full of a very fine dinner and company they had at Mr. Frank's. I had a letter from Mr. Bolton, who has seen Mr. Vansittart, who remembers his promise and says he will tell L<sup>d</sup> Grenville so, but Mr. B. says, do not be too sanguine. However, his going to town certainly was of great use, nothing like being present yourself. Susanna has been down to Rundford to look at y<sup>r</sup> girl. She says she is a very spruce-looking girl, therefore either will suit. Let me know in your next letter. Mrs. Girdlestone is still with me. Lady Bolton has some thoughts of going to Brancaster for a week or two before the cold weather comes in, most likely next week, when Sir W<sup>m</sup> Bolton returns to Ipswich again. Give my kind love to dear Horatia, & believe me, my dear Lady Hamilton, I shall be truly happy to hear you are tolerable cheerful & amongst your friends. We all join in love & best wishes to you, and believe me,' &c.

893. A. L. S. from Mrs. Peirson to the same. Dated 'Brancaster, Tuesday, 23rd September' (1806). 3½ pages 4to., with Superscription and Seal.

'I enclose a Bank post bill for twenty pounds, which you paid to Mr. Cutting without first endorsing it. You will have the goodness to write your name on the back of it, and send it to me by return of post, as the man wants to make use of it. I received your letter the day I wrote to you, & was very happy to find you were well, and that you found your good mother the same. I hope long before this Miss Foote is recovered. Bessie begs I will thank you for your kind invitation. She cannot say positively when she can come, as that depends upon a proper opportunity offering for her going up, as my father never suffers us to travel alone, but the sooner, the better she will like it. My mother is not very well, and her spirits are not good. She has just heard the death of her brother, Mr. William Woodthorpe, the father of the nephew you had the goodness to write to Captain Morris about. He died in a fit; his death is perhaps a relief to his family.

'We are expecting Lady Bolton and Emma to-day; the weather is unfavourable, & I fear it was just tempting enough for them to sett off. She come in the gig. Mr. Crowe has just been here. His son is worse; he is going with him to Lynne, if he is able to bear the journey, to consult Dr. Redfern if it would be right for him to go to the West of England. They are now too late. You do not mention Horatia in your letter to me; I hope she is well, and that she has not



forgot her Brancaster cousins. Kiss her for me & Caroline. Give my love to Anna, who, I am very glad to hear, is so good to Misses Conner, Footy, & Reynolds, & to your mother remember me most affectionately. I have almost platted my daughter a hat, & have been a regular school mistress since you left me. Write me a long letter ; your letters are my greatest pleasure, as your love, your friendship, are my greatest happiness, so answer this as usual.

'My father, mother, Miss Bolton, & sister desire to be remembered to you and the rest of your party. The postwoman waits to take this to Burnham.'

894. Doc. S. by George III. Dated September 30th, 1806. 3 pages folio. [P.]

'George the Third, by the Grace of God, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland King, Defender of the Faith, &c., to our Right Trusty and Right Entirely Beloved Cousin, Charles Duke of Norfolk, Earl Marshal and our Hereditary Marshal of England Greeting :—

'Whereas William Earl Nelson, Doctor in Divinity, William Haslewood, Esquire (Executors of the last will and testament of the late Horatio, Viscount & Baron Nelson of the Nile & of Burnham Thorpe, in the County of Norfolk, Baron Nelson of the Nile and of Hillborough, in the said County, Knight of the most Honourable Military Order of the Bath, Vice-Admiral of the White Squadron, Duke of Bronté in the Kingdom of Sicily, &c., deceased), & Dame Emma Hamilton (widow & relict of the late Sir William Hamilton, K.B., deceased), named in & by a codicil annexed to the said will sole guardian of Horatia Nelson Thompson, an infant, have, by their petition, humbly presented unto us that the said Horatio, late Viscount & Baron Nelson, having, in a clause contained in a codicil to his last will & testament, which codicil bears date the twenty-first day of October last, expressed himself in the following words, "I do leave to the beneficence of my country my adopted daughter Horatia Nelson Thompson, & I desire she will use in future the name of Nelson only," the petitioners are desirous that the said injunction should be strictly complied with, the petitioners, therefore, on behalf of the said infant, most humbly pray our Royal licence & authority that the said Horatia Nelson Thompson may assume & use the surname of Nelson only, know ye that we of our princely grace & special favour have given & granted, & by these presents do give and grant, unto the said petitioners, on behalf of the said infant Horatia Nelson Thompson our royal licence & authority, that she may assume & use the surname of Nelson only, provided this our commission and declaration be recorded in our College of Arms, otherwise this our licence and permission to be void & of none effect. Our will and pleasure is, therefore, that you, Charles Duke of Norfolk, to whom the cognizance of matters of this nature doth properly belong, do require & command that this our commission and declaration be recorded in our College of Arms, to the end that our officers of Arms & all others upon occasion may take full notice and have knowledge thereof, and for so doing, this shall be your warrant.

'Given at our court of Saint James's, the thirtieth day of September, 1806, in the forty-ninth year of our reign. By His Majesty's command. [Signed] SPENCER.'

'Recorded in the College of Arms, London, in the Register I 37, pursuant to a warrant from the most noble Charles Duke of Norfolk, Earl Marshal and Hereditary Marshal of England, and examined therewith this fourteenth day of October, 1806. [Signed] GEORGE HARRISON, *Clarenceux & Register*.'

895. A. L. S. from Mrs. Bolton to Lady Hamilton. No date (October 4th, 1806). 2½ pages 4to., with Superscription.

'Thank you, my dear Lady Hamilton, for your letters, for indeed Mr. Bolton does not write so often as I could wish. I know he does not like to tell me he has no chance of having a share of the agency, but I had rather hear it at once than be kept in suspense. I do not think after this he can ever apply for anything more, but never mind, if they will but do something for you I shall be satisfied. The Earl & Countess, with Lady Charlotte, will be in town this week. Surely

Miss Yonge has not acted an honourable part by Mr. Rolfe. She ought to have known her mind sooner. He has not left the country, but is at Ely. I should not wonder if old Dashwood had an eye to him for his daughter, but he certainly was so very fond of Eliza Yonge, that I do not think he will marry in haste. What nuts for the Whitchurches. You must have had a delightful musical party on Friday. Mrs. Lind, I daresay, was delighted to be of the party, as who would not? Is Blindy yet returned? I wish to know. If you will be so good as to chuse a pattern for bottle rugs, she will have much pleasure in working them, Eliza desires me to say, with her kind love. Mr. W<sup>m</sup> Bolton is in Suffolk, I suppose, waiting for his broker as [they] have some business to transact for Mrs. S. Bolton. I wish I could tell you anything to amuse you, but I have not been out of Cranwich since you left me. All the family join in united love to Mrs. Cadogan and all your circle.

'Tell Mr. Bolton I have directed a small parcel for him in Clarges Street, for the last time, I suppose.'

896. A. L. S. from the same to the same. Dated 'Friday morning' (October 11th), 1806. 3 pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'How shocked and surprized I was, my dear friend, at the contents of your last letter. Poor wretched girl, what will become of her? What could possess her to circulate such things? But I do not agree with you in thinking that she ought to have been told before, nor do I think anything more ought to have been said than to set *her right*. It is no kindness to set you fretting, for after all Miss C. would not even have hinted a word but to your friends, who of course would not have believed anything to your prejudice; & that she well knew, for no one would have been warmer in your cause, had she heard any person living even *surmised* anything against you. Now, my dear Lady, pardon me if I have said anything to offend you. I am sure I would say and do everything to please and nothing to fret.

'I have sent by the coach yesterday a hare for dear Mrs. Cadogan, the first I have had this year. When Susanna goes to Swaffham she will get Miss Roger-son's bill; I have likewise a small bill sent from Mr. Griffens; these, with the Dr.'s bill shall be sent upon an opportunity. As to the post bills, she says she has kept no account, & they are paid for with ours.

'The Earl and Countess will be in town, I suppose, by the time you receive this. I bought nothing at the auction, but Mr. Mower bought the drawing-room chairs & cushions, I dare say for your Ladyship to sit on, or my *Royall*. We have had a letter from Sir William, off *Ushant* with the fleet, but was to sail again in a few days. Have you seen Mr. Matcham is going down to his place to build, for I suppose they will remove in the spring. Mr. Bolton is expected by his brother at Ipswich, on business for Mrs. S. Bolton; he can do no good in town now, or, as it has turned out, has *he*. You never tell me how your business of the codicil goes on; believe me, no one is more anxious than I am in everything that concerns *you*. Ever,' &c.

897. A.L.S. from Lady Bolton to Sir William Bolton. Dated Cranwich, October 28th (1806). 3½ pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'I yesterday received a letter from my mother saying Captain Joyce would take a letter from me to you; she likewise adds that she understands you will have a share (as commanding officer) in the prizes taken by Lieut. Nicholson, and congratulates me on it. But I own I am not very sanguine about it; I fear it is not true, but I understand nothing of these matters. My father flatters himself that you will get it. At any rate, we are determined to enjoy it in imagination, for fear we should not in reality. My mother has seen your friend, Capt. Staines, and was pleased with him. Lady Hamilton, my mother, and all the party from Merton, have been to Woolwich to the Tysons to see the launch of the *Ocean*. Everything went off well; no accidents happened. It must have been a very grand sight! She is the longest ship ever built in this country. I



forgot to mention your father wrote to Capt. Staines to invite him to Brancaster. We had a letter from him to say he will come if possible, but he fears it will not be in his power. Your father was with us one day last week. He had been to Cambridge with Henry Girdlestone; he is now returned to Halleday. Your mother is at Colchester; your brother and Charles Girdlestone are with her. There was a bad fever near Beccles, and, several people having died, your father thought it better to take them away for the present. Mr. Lorrey Girdlestone says they have earned the holiday—they have been so attentive to their lessons. I hear from Miss Langford her brother, to his great mortification, is not going to the Mediterranean, but is ordered to go with a convoy to the coast of Africa again. His only consolation is, he is not ordered to stop, but to return back to England directly. Mr. George Langford is expected at Swaffham at the coursing meeting; he is only waiting for leave of absence. I understand he likes being a soldier very much. We expect Becca and Eliza Smith to-morrow to spend a short time with us. It will not, I fear, be long, for the party are very small at Brancaster, and your father and mother are not likely to return at present. I have heard no news since I have been home, for Susanna and Eliza have been out nowhere, not even to Swaffham. I can now say I am quite well. This weather agrees with me, and a cold bath, which I have every morning, certainly strengthens me. I am no walker at present, but that I attribute in a great degree to not having been accustomed to it for some time. Mrs. Pierson has written to me to beg I will ask you to enquire of Dr. Scott, when you see him, what he did with the parcel he had to deliver from Mrs. Robinson to Capt. Robinson (you mentioned in one of your letters it was Arabella's picture). It has never been received by him, and Mrs. R. has written to your sister to ask her to make some enquiries about it. I hear Emily was so delighted at hearing of your mother's recovering from a slight indisposition she has had (very slight, only Emily, who you know is very timid, alarmed herself about it) that she wrote half a sheet to Becca, but did not venture to send it. I begin now to despair of ever having her for a correspondent; she is, I think, incorrigible. My father desires me to say, if you meet with an excellent lot of tobacco remember him, and bring him some. Susanna sends her love to you, and hopes you will not save any for yourself. You know she hates smoking, nor is she a bit fonder of it than when you left her. My dear Emma is well. She has lost her maid, who has had the care of her ever since she was born, and of whom she is very fond. She left her last night; she is going to be married, or I would not have parted with her, as she was an excellent servant and very attentive to the child. Poor Emma does not love her new maid as well, and it causes some tears at night; for in the day she is very fond of her, as she is not afraid of strangers. She is in a fair way of being spoilt, for she is indulged by the whole house. She has learnt to say when she is asked where her papa is, "gone to sea," but this is not often said when my father is present, for then she points to him, as she always calls him papa. She repeats everything after you, but she speaks but few sentences at present. She promises to love her papa very much; in short, she says she will be a dutiful daughter. I cannot say she is very obedient to mama, I never can persuade her I am in earnest. If I bid her not do anything, she does it, looks up in my face, and laughs; but if I look grave, she comes directly and holds up her little face to be kissed, for she cannot bear any one to be angry with her. All unite in love,' &c.

898. A. L. S. from Mrs. Matcham to Lady Hamilton. Dated Bath, November 10th, 1806. 2 pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'I was very happy, my dear Lady Hamilton, to receive a few lines from you. I hope you will not forget to let us hear *from you* sometimes; it will always give us pleasure to hear *from yourself* that you are well and comfortable. I sometimes flatter myself that we shall see you at our little farm; all we can promise is *homely fare* & a hearty welcome, for, be assur'd, my dear Lady Hamilton, I never can forget the many happy days we have spent together. We shall be in Sussex, I hope, early in the summer, as we intend to dispose of our house as soon as possible. My good man will be in town about Christmas, as I am fearful we

cannot prevail upon the gentleman to remain in our house in Sussex longer than that time. Pray give my love to Horatia, and tell her not to forget her *aunt* Matcham, & that I hope to present *all her cousins* to her in the summer. As Mr. M. will add a few lines, I shall only beg my best wishes to Mrs. Cadogan & all your party. Believe me to be,' &c.

[\* 'You guard us against malevolent tongues, but, be assured, we hear nothing of you but what is good. Knowing our attachment, even your enemies would not, in our presence, infringe the rules of civility by speaking anything derogatory of you—our associates are your admirers. You need not tell me that you will ever continue a friend & well-wisher to the family ; your natural disposition sufficiently guarantees it, we therefore never doubt it.

'Our house, I fear, will not be so readily sold as we flatter'd ourselves ; the winter is coming on, and we still hope we shall not be obliged to sell it under its value. At Ashfold Lodge we shall have a hope of seeing you, as the distance from London is nothing.

'Do, my dear Lady, urge the Earl to exert his interest to procure for Oliver some appointment. He has a fine friend in you, but it would relieve his mind if he could obtain some little independence. Before Christmas I shall have the pleasure of paying my respects to you. I am,' &c.]

899. A. L. S. from Mrs. Bolton to the same. Dated 'Thursday morning' (November 15th, 1806). 3 pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'What a letter, my dear Lady, did you write me ; how could you think that people who were receiving obligations from you every day, in the person of their daughter, could ever be ungratefull. But I hope you received my letter, & that set all matters *right*. As to Mr. Bolton, he really worked like a horse from morning to night, & had no time to see you, his son, or Mr. Goldsmid, before he came home, where he was much wanted, as we could do no further, having neither money or credit, as we could sell nothing without him, and Mrs. S. Bolton was come here in hopes to meet him. Had he known where and when to have seen you in town, he would have stolen an hour from sleep to have seen you. He was in hopes you would have given him a *note*, but, be assured, you will always be loved and respected by us both, not only on your own account, but for the sake of him who is *gone*. Give my love to dear Horatia ; Anne I will write a line to the other side. Mr. Bolton, in some of his perigrinations, met with a gentleman who is the great friend of the Viscontess. However, he gave him his opinion pretty freely, as you know he can do ; amongst others, he said "You, as a sensible man, cannot have known her so long without knowing she is a f——." The gent. gave an assenting nod. Thank you for the verses. Mr. Ollivere was so good as to send me an account of the fête. I am sure you will enjoy yourself with Mrs. Benfield. Whatever either Mr. Bolton or myself may do, be assured we would not willingly for a moment slight you, &, be assured, you have not *firmer friends*, and with reason. Yours,' &c.

[† 'Thank you, my dear Anne, for your letter. I wish you would write oftener both to me and your sisters. I am glad you are sensible of my Lady's kindness to you. I was pleased to hear you made your own things, you will find the good effects of it every day ; it costs as much money to pay for the making as it does for the buying. Give my kind love to Mrs. Nelson, and tell her the goose was not forgotten, but I understood she was not in town at the time. I fear they are not so good just now, but I will send her a ham if she likes that better, when she gives me a direction. Give my kindest love to Mrs. Cadogan, Miss Conner, & all your party. Give my kindest love to Tom, and ask if he wants anything. His father was to have done it but came away in such a hurry he saw no one. Believe me,' &c.]

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\* The portion in square brackets is in Mr. Matcham's handwriting.

† The portion in square brackets is to the writer's daughter Anne, at that time staying with Lady Hamilton.



900. A. L. S. from Lady Bolton to the same. Dated Cranwich, March 1st, 1807. 3½ pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'I should have written before this, to have thanked you for your kind letter with the agreeable intelligence about Sir William, but I was in hopes I should have been able to inform you I had had letters from him, but I have now given up all expectation of it at present ; you will easily imagine the pleasure I received from the news you were so kind as to send me of him. I had been so long in uncertainty about him that I began to be very uneasy about it. I cannot express how much I feel obliged to you for sending it to me so expeditiously, but you were always quick in executing what you think would give pleasure to your friend.

'Emma has just been asking to whom I am writing, and when I told her, she desires I will tell Lady Hamilton & Miss Horatia that she is very good, she talks often of her grandmama. She wishes she was at home, for she wants to talk to her. She sings, she often asks for her, & sends kisses to everybody she knew at Merton.

'Eliza and I are still alone, for tho' we have been expecting my father & Susanna for several days, but they are not yet arrived ; perhaps they will come this evening. I am much obliged to Anne for her letters, but who Mrs. Batchly is we are at a loss to discover ; we imagine it is Marianne, but yet we know not what can bring her into Norfolk. I shall write a few lines to my mother on the other side. Eliza unites in love to all your circle. Your affectionate and obliged,' &c.

(LETTER TO HER MOTHER.)

'I received your letter this morning, and tho' I have nothing to say, I wish to write a few lines to thank you for it. The print for the bed Susanna has got at Ipswich ; but as she cannot match the print for my patchwork, I should be obliged to you to try the same coloured ground, and the pattern small. I should prefer something with yellow or green, but if the ground is the same colour, I should like to have three yards ; or a yard and a half would do. If you can get it and send it by Mrs. Batchely, I should be very glad. I think I will not trouble you to get the calico for the lining of my bed, as I find I can get a very good peice of muslin for a shilling a yard, yard wide, or ell wide at one shilling & sixpence, and I do not think it likely you could get it cheaper, & have the trouble & expence of getting it and sending it down.

'I am in haste, as I fear being too late for the post. Yours,' &c.

'We have read *Vicissitudes Abroad*,\* and like it very much.†

901. A. L. S. from the same to the same. Dated Cranwich, March 5th (1807). 1½ pages 4to, with Superscription. [P.]

'I feel truly grateful for your kindness to me on all occasions. I have just heard from Mr William Bolton you have been so kind as to write to Lord St. Vincent to take Sir William under his command—he informs me the request was granted, and that orders are to be sent to recall him. I know not how to express my sense of your goodness to me ; be assured I shall ever feel it. My dear little girl, I assure you, talks often of Lady Hamilton, and says she loves her very much indeed ; she knows your picture, and says it is a beauty. She is very fond of talking of Horatia ; I am sure they would be great friends. Emma is so fond of children ; she says grandmama is coming from London to see her, and counts of seeing her very much. I have heard from Mrs. Peirson very lately, she desires her best love to you. Susanna & Eliza unite with me in love to you. Pray remember us to Mrs. Cadogan and Miss Horatia for us.'

\* *Vicissitudes Abroad, or the Ghost of my Father*, a novel by Mrs. A. M. Bennett, published in 1806. Mrs. Bennett, who wrote a number of novels, died in 1808.

† At the bottom in another hand is the following note from Miss E. A. Bolton to Lady Hamilton : 'I have just been enquiring of Lady Bolton if she mentioned me particularly to you and Horatia, as I desired her. I find she has only given it all together, and as she asked me to direct the letter, I would not let it go without begging you to accept the love of yours,' &c.

902. A. L. S. from Miss Eliza Anne Bolton to the same. Dated Cranwich, March 8th, 1807.  $2\frac{1}{2}$  pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'I received the parcel yesterday morning. For the gown I beg you will accept my best thanks. Lady Bolton desires me also to thank you for the pieces for patchwork which we received with the gown. My sister Susanna returned from Suffolk only last Monday. We were very glad when they returned, as we had been very dull the week before. She left Mrs. Taylor very well. As we have not much news at Cranwich, Susanna and myself purpose going in a few days to Swaffham, to pick up a little—where we have not been for some time. I hope Horatia is better, as we heard from Mrs. Bachellor she had had chicken pox, which must have made her very ill. Pray give my love to her, and tell her I think Emma will be able to dance with her when she sees her next.

'As Lady Bolton talks of writing, I must leave the rest of the paper for her. Pray remember me to Mrs. Cadogan when you see her. My father and sisters unite with me in love to all the party, and accept the same from.'

'Emma desired me to give her love to Lady Hamilton, and tell her that she would send her a piece of sugared barley. The above is the exact message.'

903. A. L. S. from Lady Bolton to the same. No date (March 8th, 1807).  $1\frac{1}{2}$  pages 4to. [P.]

'I would not suffer this letter to go without writing a few lines to thank you for your kind letters. I desired Eliza to return my thanks for the patchwork, which I hope she has done. Susanna and I shall be most happy to accompany you to the seaside, or, indeed, to see you at any place. My mother flatters us you will pay us a visit in the course of the summer. I hope you will, and enliven Cranwich, which without you is far from gay. If it were not for my work, I should be tired of living where we have not the chance of seeing a soul. Emma indeed is alway merry, and is singing and dancing from morning till night. She has not forgot Merton, but was describing her going over the bridge to the dairy to see the milk, tho' of all she saw there Mr. Sancho made the greatest impression.

'My father talks of writing to my mother in a day or two. Susanna desires her love to Anne; she has not had a letter from her lately. We should have written to you yesterday as soon as the parcel arrived, but it was not a post day. You must take care of yourself, for everybody have been ill about us with very bad colds & cough. You will find it very difficult to get rid of it. I have a bad cold now, indeed I have not been without this winter. My mother must excuse my not writing, for as I write to you so often my brains will not furnish another letter.'

904. A. L. S. from Lady Abercorn\* to the same. No date (1807?). 2 pages 4to. [P.]

'I must confide a secret to you which I depend upon your keeping, because I do not wish a conversation about it. The Princess of Wales dines here, and, I hope, on Friday, that being the only day neither Naldi or Madame Bianchi c<sup>d</sup> dine with us. As Naldi must return to town, c<sup>d</sup> you not contrive that he shou<sup>d</sup> come after dinner on Friday (I c<sup>d</sup> send the carriage for him). He c<sup>d</sup> stay all Saturday and Sunday; manage it if you can well. He will be a great acquisition on Friday evening, but c<sup>d</sup> not well dine with the Princess of Wales. We c<sup>d</sup> send him back on Sunday night if he wish'd it, or on Monday as early as he pleased, but if that arrangement don't suit him, any other days he likes whilst you are with us we shall be very happy to see him.

'Thursday will answer just as well for us, except being a day longer without the pleasure of your company. When does Madame Bianchi come?

'We hope you will not forget any of your shawls or things for attitudes. Yours, &c.

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\* Anne Jane, daughter of Arthur, 2nd Earl of Arran, widow of Henry Hatton, married, April 3rd, 1800 (his third wife), the first Marquis of Abercorn. She died in 1827.



905. A. L. S. from Mrs. Bolton and Lady Bolton to the same. Dated Cranwich, March 23rd (1807).  $3\frac{1}{4}$  pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'We left you with our hearts full of your kindness & attentions, both to Becca & myself. As to my daughters, I shall leave them to express their own acknowledgements. We talked of nothing but you for the first hour, but I thought we should be so worn out before we began our journey, therefore, when we had breakfasted at Epping, I proposed turning our thoughts to our friends we were going to meet. We arrived about nine quite worn out. All yesterday I was very ill, & not much better to-day. Kiss dear Horatia for me; tell her I love her, I think, better than ever. As to Emma, glad as she was to see us, would have rather seen Lady Hamilton & Miss Horatia. I am glad the new minister is such as you like. I hope now you will soon be well, and then perhaps it will be fortunate you were an invalid, as it prevented your business being brought before those cold-hearted Grenvilles. Mr. Bolton says he will let them be safely seated before he comes to town. Give my love to Mrs. Voller & thank her for her letter. I will write to Anne & her the middle of the week. Make my kindest love & regard to dear Mrs. Cadogan; thank her for her kindness to me and mine. Love to Miss Reynolds. Miss Boydell, and all the party. Ever believe me your,' &c.

'Mr. Bolton desires I will give his kind love to you, & he is pleased to see you consider your own *interest* in getting rid of that fellow Crib,' &c.

(FROM LADY BOLTON.)

'I will write a few lines, my dear Lady H., to thank you for your handsome presents to my dear Emma; they are not to be shown till to-morrow, as we mean to give a fête. Nanny Gant, her baby, and Miss Sarah Jex are the guests invited, and there are very few people she would prefer having, I think, except you and Horatia, for when I told her that her grandmama was coming home, she said she should like to see her, but she had rather see Lady Hamilton and Miss Horatia. I should have written before to thank you for the number of kind letters I have received, but I have been very ill all the week with a very bad cold and sore throat, which have made me feel too ill to write. Indeed, to-day, I have so bad a headache that I can scarcely hold it up. If, therefore, I omit returning my thanks for your presents so fully as I ought to do, you must lay it to my head, and not to my heart. Susanna desires me to return her thanks for the very handsome gown you have sent her. It is beautiful; I think it the handsomest pattern we ever saw. Eliza went to Brancaster yesterday. Anne thanks you for your presents; she will write herself, but she said she should wait a few days, if I would write and return her thanks, as she is anxious that a day should not pass before you hear how much obliged she is for your presents. Susanna desires me to return her thanks for your letter, but my mother writes so often that she has not often an opportunity of writing. We admire *La Belle Assemblée*.

'Love to all. You must excuse my writing any more, my head is so bad.'

906. A. L. S. from Miss R. Bolton to the same. Dated 'Brancaster, March 24<sup>th</sup>' (1807).  $1\frac{1}{4}$  pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'We reached home in safety at the time we had appointed, and found all the party in good health and spirits. We persuaded Mr. Bolton to give his consent to Eliza's accompanying us to Brancaster, which adds to the gaiety of our party. I feel very anxious to hear that you have lost your cold. The weather is, I think, more favourable than it has been of late. I hope the good air of Merton will soon make a cure. Every one tells me of the good effect it has had on me, and that I look much better than when I left Brancaster. Eliza sends her love, and thanks you for the book, which she is much delighted with. She begs you to give her love to Horatia; she is much mortified at her not having received her letter. Mrs. Peirson is anxious for the letter you have promised. I hope, if you do not feel inclined to take up your pen, you will ask Anna to let me know how you and all at Merton are. All here beg to be remembered to you, Mrs. Cadogan, and all your party. I beg you will give my love particularly to Horatia.'

907. Three A. L. S. from Mrs. Bolton to Mrs. Voller, to her daughter Anne, and to Lady Hamilton. Dated 'Cranwich, Wednesday, noon' (March 25th, 1807). 3½ pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

1. (To Mrs. Voller.) 'You were very good, my dear Mrs. Voller, to write to me when I had used you so shabbily before. I am afraid Tom Bolton will make but a bad hand at the kissing breeches part of the business, but I hope he will come to town when they are all firmly seated. Tell my Lady I hope these new ministers will do *such things* for her as will, with the help of the fine weather, quite restore her to her usual state of health & spirits. No one wishes it more, & you will say no one has more reason, for I know not where I should find so good a friend. Tell my dear Horatia, Emma was delighted with her letter, & when she is able, will write to her, but that will be, I doubt, this many a day. Give my love to Miss Voller, and accept the same from all this party.'

2. (To Miss Anne Bolton.) 'Your sister Susanna thanks you for your letter, & will certainly write soon. I forgot to tell Mrs. Voller the velvet spencers were much approved of—the thing of all things they wished for. Eliza is gone to Brancaster for a few weeks only. The toys & books were opened on Emma's birthday. Such shouting and such joy you never beheld. She talked all day of Miss Horatia. Be so good as to pay for me at Hamilton's, James Street, 5/6 for a piece of silver, & at Turner's for 2 pair of short gloves & 2 p<sup>r</sup> socks. Tell Mary Arbour I have left a chemise and a napkin behind me, the former (dirty) I suppose she will find with your's when she wash. I am glad to hear such a good character of you for your early rising, &c. Tell Mr. Oliver the book he bought for me has 16 pages left out, therefore will trouble him to secure me another. I will send the one I have the first opportunity. Give my love to Miss Boydell & your father; particularly to her. Remember us to Miss Reynolds and Letitia. The whole party send love to you.'

3. (To Lady Hamilton.) 'I cannot, my dear Lady, suffer a sheet of paper to go out of this house, without saying how much I am obliged to you for your doily covers. Everything seems to be going on as you could wish. No doubt, now, but Government now will reward your—services I must call them—God grant, as ample as you desire, & as your best friends can wish you: a very just criticism on the Earl. I have not yet recovered my journey, for it was too far in one day. I forgot I was no longer young. Mr. Commings dined with us yesterday; he talks of being in town the middle of next month. My neighbour, Partridge, I see walk past—that is all I know of her. Give my kindest love to Mrs. Cadogan, & kiss dear Horatia again & again for us all. Mr. Bolton joins with my daughter in kindest love to you.'

908. A. L. S. from Mr. Charles Greville to Lady Hamilton. Dated April 7th, 1807. 1½ page 4to., with Superscription and Seal. [P.]

'I am very sorry I am not well enough to accept your obliging invitation to Merton. After I rec'd your note I sent off my letters to the Bishop, that there might not be any obstacles to my placing your donation as a relict in the church at Milford. I mentioned it with other particulars, & have a general approbation from the Bishop of all I propose, & he is to be, next month or the beginning of July, at Milford to consecrate the chapel. I only stated that I had expectation of a piece of the wreck of the *L'Orient*; you are therefore, in no degree committed, but you may destine it to any other use if you find one preferable to your inclination. I feel, as I cannot come to it, I wish it could come to me at the bottom of your carriage, tied round with paper, that it may not be rubbed, and I will then have time to get it from Mr. Bianchi, & order a pedestal to enclose it, and get it in place before the Bishop comes, for I should not think it right to put it in the chapel after consecration is over.

'Do not be on compliment on the occasion. I suggest it as likely to be as gratifying to you as it will be to me to insert your name as the donor.'



909. A. L. S. from Mrs. Bolton to the same. 'Dated Cranwich, Tuesday, noon' (April 7th, 1807). 3 pages 4to., with Superscription and Seal. [P.]

'I should have written to you on Monday, but thought our letters might cross on the road ; but I am sorry to find no letter from you to-day, not illness, I hope, prevents you, but that you are far better employed on your most essential business. If but a line, write to say you are well. Kate has just heard from Sir W<sup>m</sup>. He expects to stay at Plymouth a week or ten days more ; he is afraid no more cruising, now he has lost his friend. Susanna was at Swaffham yesterday. Charlotte Young is off to spend a month with her aunt, Lady Nelson. Mrs. Dennis Young will be in town in about a fortnight, for two or three days. She hopes you will be in town, as she wishes much to see you, & she is in such a precarious state (she is fearfull she will miscarry) that she is afraid to jolt more than need must, and she is anxious to get to Devonshire. I fear they find Norfolk too expensive for their circumstances. Mr. Rolfe's marriage is all premature ; no such thing thought of. I believe he is going to leave the military. I forgot to tell you what I am sure you will be glad to hear. Mrs. Bouchery, amongst bequests, has left Mrs. Williams, the miliner, £1500, enough, poor thing ! to make her comfortable for life. She is going to quit business. I see all your friends are gazetted. Do sunimon all your friends, & make a bold push both for yourself & Horatia. They are so often changing, whatever is done must be done quickly. When you have had an opportunity of sounding them about Mr. Bolton we will come to town. I saw the cabinet dinner was only L<sup>d</sup> Sidmouth, Archbishop, & Bishop Exeter. Lords Grenville & Petty sent their excuses.

'Mr. Bolton is now off for Brancaster for a few days. How is the weather with you? Here nothing grows ; the sheep and lambs, I fear, will be all starved. By a letter from Eliza to-day she is anxious to hear from Horatia that you are well. We are all ill with colds. Give my kind love to Mrs. Cadogan & dear Horatia, Anne, & in short, all your circle. My daughters join in kindest love & regards to your Ladyship.

'I have had such a letter from Mrs. Andrews, so full of the charms of Merton & its inhabitants. Sir W<sup>m</sup> Bolton is particularly gratified you were so good as to invite his aunt Andrews.'

910. A. L. S. from Sir William Bolton to the same. Dated H. M. S. *Eurydice*, Monday, April 13th (1807). 2 pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'I have written by this post to your friend, Lady Percival. I need not say how happy you have made me, by giving the occasion of showing that to me your Ladyship's wishes are commands. I have not at present a vacancy for the young man, but there are two chances of there being one, & I have said to Lady Anne that she may depend on being rated midshipman the very first minute I have the power. If an occasion does not offer very soon, I will *make* an opportunity. I heard to-day from my dear friend, Captain Staines : he sets off from town on Sunday morning, so that he will reach this by Wednesday next. Anne, I fear, is very idle. I have never received a line from her, and now give up all hope. I heard the 8<sup>th</sup> instant from my dear Kate, and had the satisfaction of learning several anecdotes highly honourable to our darling Emma, and to me who have such abhorrence of meanness, it is particularly grateful to hear she promises to imitate her charming Godmama in generosity. T. Bolton is going to town to try his luck with the new minister, and I pray for his success. *Eurydice* will be ready for sea by Wednesday, but as no orders are as yet come down from her, it may be next week ere we sail. God bless you, my dearest friend, and have you in his keeping, and if there is faith in works, I cannot doubt but Providence will watch over your happiness, which is as dear as his own to your Ladyship's faithful, &c.

911. A. L. S. from Mrs. Bolton to the same. Dated 'Cranwich, Tuesday' (April 14th, 1807). 3 pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'I am glad the Duke has said he does not approve of No. 136\* for you, it looks as if he really meant to leave you something to keep up a better establishment. Shall I say the truth, I was very much hurt to see you were obliged whether you liked it or not to mix with their society, indeed, if they had given you up the front drawing room entirely & two bedchambers you might have been more comfortable. I am sorry to find your friend, Williams, has not succeeded as a Director because at this time I have to request the favour of you to use your interest for W<sup>m</sup> Girdlestone. He is gone to town to his mother now to be fixed in some situation directly, a Clerk in the India House, if he could once get a footing there I know he will get forward. If you can do it it will be a great act of kindness to the young man. Eliza is returned from Brancaster; Mr. W<sup>m</sup> Bolton has had a return of his complaint, but is better again now. I look at every paper in hopes of seeing your Memorial. I trust they will do something for you & Horatia. As to Mr. Bolton I am not at all sanguine. Tom I hope will be provided for, but that I trust to you. All here join in love to you & all at Merton. God bless you.

'I write in haste to save post.'

912. A. L. S. from Mrs. Matcham to the same. Dated Portland Place, April 29th, 1807. 2 pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'We were very sorry to find by a letter from Lady Charlotte that Mrs. Cadogan had been dangerously ill, we hope before this she has been getting strength, as the weather is very fine for invalids; it has been a very unhealthy season at Bath, everybody, young & old, has been complaining. Mr. M. has been very indifferent ever since he left town, but these few fine days have quite cheer'd us all. We shall soon begin to think of moving, it requires courage, I assure you, to remove so large a family, but I hope we shall be settled there for some time. We shall expect the happiness of seeing you at our farmhouse before the summer is over. I can only say, my dear Lady Hamilton, it will give us much pleasure to *fête* you the best in our power. Horatia, I hear, is much improved. Tell her I long to see her & likewise Anne, who, I hear, is a fine young woman. You *must* come into Sussex & take a look at us.

'With the hope of hearing Mrs. Cadogan is getting well & our united best wishes to you & all your party.'

913. A. L. S. from Mrs. Bolton to the same. No date† (May, 1807). 2 $\frac{3}{4}$  pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'I am always happy when I get a letter from you, it is the chief pleasure I have here. By this you will have seen Mr. Bolton, as he proposed being at Merton. He has been upon tramp all the time, & so much taken up that till this morning I have not had a line, altho' on business. They made a point of his being in Hanover Square, & I had not received your very kind invitation for him before he left us. As to Lady Bolton & Susanna, as you give a choice whether they will come up to you or you come to them, surely you do not think I shall let you off your visit to me. I am going to clean up my house, as far as whitewashing, &c., and get rid of my wine, as soon as Mr. Bolton comes home, & then I shall hope for the happiness of seeing you. The journey will be of use to Mrs. Cadogan, & as pleasant as we can make it; but you make every place cheerful. I am anxious every day to hear something further of your business. I hope the chief of your friends will be returned for their places in Parliament. I have enclosed this to Mr. Bolton, as I have not a proper direction to you in Bond Street, neither is it worth the postage.

'Give all our kind loves to Mrs. Cadogan, Horatia, Anne, & accept the same yourself from all the party.'

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\* 136 New Bond Street.

† The letter is not dated, but the reference to an election places it in 1807.



914. A. L. S. from Capt. George Langford, R.N., to Mrs. Cadogan. Dated His Majesty's Ship *Sappho*, Sheerness, May 7th, 1807. 2 pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'No doubt you will be a little surprized on receiving a letter from me, but I assure you altho' I have never of late had an opportunity of paying my respects to my friends at Merton, I am not unmindful of them. I called last Wednesday week at Clarges Street, and was much disappointed I had not the pleasure of seeing Lady Hamilton, whose kind notice and friendly enquiries after me I can never forget. I was appointed to the *Sappho* by Mr. Grenville thro' the interest of Lord Spencer; she is a beautiful new brig, and quite ready for sea, excepting men, and Lord Mulgrave has promised my father that I shall go to the Mediterranean. My first Lieutenant (Mr. Alexr. Hills) was a Lieutenant of the *Victory* with poor dear Lord Nelson at the glorious and ever memorable battle of Trafalgar. The object of this letter is to request of you to be so kind as to present my very best respects to her Ladyship, and say that if she has any friend that is desirous of going to sea I will with *great pleasure* receive him, and do all that lays in my power to make him *happy* and *comfortable*. Poor Mrs. Langford and our dear sweet little boy (I must call him so, and I *think* Lady H. would say the same if she saw him) are to remain with her father at Windsor till I return, which I hope will not be long first. I understand an extensive naval promotion is about to take place, and I am pushing hard to be included. I often think of the many happy hours I passed in the *Foudroyant*. When I receive my orders for sailing from hence I will write to you in time for her Ladyship to get anything that she may wish to send to that quarter. May I anticipate the pleasure of receiving a line from you? And with kind remembrances to Lady H. I must subscribe myself, &c.

'P.S.—I have never been able to get my medal for the battle of the Nile.'

915. A. L. S. from Miss J. Bolton to Miss Anne Bolton. Dated Cranwich, Saturday evening (May 12th, 1807). 3¼ pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'You express so great a desire to hear from us, and complain so much, that I really feel a little ashamed of myself for not having written before; but I really grow quite lazy in the letter way, & am in debt to all my correspondents. This proceeds from two things—want of inclination & want of subject; to you the latter chiefly applies, for my mother writes so constantly to my Lady, & Cranwich is so dull, that I find nothing to say. Emma is our only amusement, & she grows more entertaining every day; she imitates everybody, generally calling her grand-mama mother & her mama my Lady or Kitty; she often talks of you & Miss Horatia. The wax doll my Lady sent her she has named Emma Hamilton, entirely her own thought, & is very fond of her. I cannot say the studies proceed very rapidly, but her memory is as good as ever & she learns all her little books by heart; she is as generous as ever, and will give away everything she has. I must mention as a proof of this a circumstance that happened a short time since. Emma was extremely hungry, having had nothing from breakfast about half past 8, & had just had a very nice plum-cake put into her hand when a poor woman (that is, William dressed up) came to the window and related a piteous tale of being extremely hungry, and concluded by saying, "Pray, Miss, cannot you give me something?" "Yes, poor woman, here is a cake for you," was the reply, & the plum-cake was given to the poor woman, & she waited for her dinner, not without many fears that the poor woman would be starved as she had nothing more for her dinner. This you will see is entirely for yourself, but I know all about her is interesting to you. Give my love to Horatia, I am happy to hear she improves so much. Give my love to Lady Hamilton & I hope she will have some good fortune, for I dreamed that the Duke of Queensbury was dead & had left her a handsome legacy & my mother did the same. I am happy to hear Mrs. Cadogan is so much recovered, I feared for her; the spring and winter proved very trying

to everybody's constitution. Give my love to her. Eliza would thank you to get and send down by the coach for her as soon as you can 1 doz. black chalk pencils, you know the kind, and my father will pay for them when he comes to town. My mother thanks you for your letters and sends her love to you, my Lady, &c. Emma sends kisses. We all join in love & good wishes to all your party. Yours, &c.

916. A. L. S. from Mrs. Bolton to Lady Hamilton. Dated June 1st, 1807.  
3 pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'How could you for a moment, my dear Lady, suppose I could have any engagements that should prevent me from having the pleasure of seeing you and yours *here*; give me a day or two's notice and I shall be happy to receive you at any time. The reason of my not getting your letters was I have been gossiping to Saham & Swaffham for this week past—quite a gay scene for me. Mrs. Rolfe looks as well and as chearful as she did ten years back, she is now in her 78th year. Tell Mrs. Cadogan she shall see her; I hope she will live as long and look as likely to live as Mrs. Rolfe does, who I hope will live as long as her mother, who was 91. On the Wed. we went to Swaffham & dined with Mrs. Day, a large party—the first time Eliza Yonge and Mr. Rolfe met. Mr. R. was a moment or two before he could speak to her, but he did not seem the least discomposed. Mrs. Yonge speaks highly of the Hanoverians' great kindness to Charlotte, if they purchase the estate in Suffolk she is to go down with them there. Mr. Johnson likewise was delighted with his visit; they are always all politeness to him, & they always liked him, that may be, but I remember the time when he would not go as far as Hilbro' to dine with the Rector & his Vic., what a difference does nobility make. The most of my time I spent with the Langfords, who beg their kind comp<sup>ts</sup> to you. How happy I am I was not at your *grumtulation* dinners. I am rejoiced to hear your affairs are drawing to a crisis, I hope to a good purpose, you may have waited so long as you have done. I hope in God Mr. Rose will have the power as well as the will to serve us all. I cannot say but I am anxious about telling Tom, he is 21 in July, Emma sends her love to Horatia, & shall be so happy to see her at Cranwich. We all join in love and good wishes to you and your party.

'Thank you for your secret, I wish the admiration were to the purpose you would take care she would not be an Eliza Yonge.

'Mr. Johnson says Lady Charlotte is improved in her person, grown *fatter*. Does Mr. Berney flutter about the *flame*? I am,' &c.

917. A. L. S. from Miss Bolton to the same. Dated Cranwich, June 3rd, 1807. 3 pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'I am much obliged to you for your two kind letters, which I should certainly have written to you before, but on Sunday my mother wrote & yesterday we were engaged all day by a very agreeable visit from Mr. Comyns, who was stupider than ever. Eliza, being butler, grumbled very much, for he did not talk, but sat & drank a bottle of port, and that being finished, he helped us to drink best part of a bottle of white; this, with a glass of cherry brandy which he drank in the morning, I think must have pretty well satisfied him. Mrs. Comyns and the baby very well. What you write me of the Nelsons does not surprise me. I always foresaw how they would behave. Lady Charlotte is certainly good-tempered, but she has got no heart or she could not behave unkind to you, who have been so very kind to her, but she is one of those characters that are always governed by the opinions of those they are with. We are anxiously expecting you; I hope it will not be long. Tell Horatia Emma reckons on seeing her. We are preparing to receive you. Eliza and I as head-gardeners are busy at work cleaning, the garden chairs are painting, &c. Emma is to be inoculated for the smallpox to-morrow or next day; we do not expect she will have it, but she is prepared by medicine exactly as if she was. Caroline Peirson has been to Wells & was inoculated; she was unwell with fever two nights, but they say she had not the



smallpox. My love to Anna, & thank her for her letter. I shall not write, I hope soon to see her. How delightfull Merton must be this weather. My mother desires me to say that she hopes that if it is possible you will bring Miss Reynolds with you. We shall all be most happy to see her. My love to Mrs. Cadogan. I hope [the change] will make her quite well. Miss Partridge will certainly be an idiot. Henry Yonge, who was here the other day on his way from Cambridge, says, "What can you expect? the mother is very little better." Emma says she must write to you, "my dear Lady Hamilton, you must come & see me with Miss Horatia, for I will not cut my hair again, Emma." We all join in love.'

918. A. L. S. from Mrs. Bolton to the same. No date (June 9th, 1807).

3 pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'You are very good, my dear lady, to think of your friends on a Sunday. I do like to receive a letter on that day, sure enough. I hope & doubt not (now the Earl is not here) but your company will prove very agreeable. I think the Countess will be delighted with Merton. She must if (she) has any taste. We shall be truly happy to see you for as long a time, and when it will be most agreeable to you I shall be glad to see Cecilia. My dear little Emma was inoculated for the smallpox yesterday. She has already had the vaccine, but her mother was willing to make the experiment. Caroline has, & it is doubtful whether or not she has not the smallpox. Doctors differ.

'We expect Mrs. Pierson & Caroline on Tuesday, Mr. and Mrs. Clarke, of Ipswich, who are returning from Brancaster. You have had a gay scene lately, & I hope will be the better for it. Mr. Johnson says you never looked better or handsomer than you do at this time. Madame Berney sticks to the Countess, but she is aware of her. Is there any thoughts of Berney & Lady Charlotte? The Earl is *mad* enough for any things in that family, but I hope the ladies have more spirits. I must not say more as Mrs. Partridge is going to the post, & if I miss that it will be a day later. Give my love to Tom—when are we to see him? I find I am too late, so may chat a little more. I find Charlotte Yonge is such a favourite that she is to go down to Suffolk with them. I foresee she will now be the first favourite; as Eliza is too handsome, they will be afraid of the young lord, that is the Earl. I do not think her ladyship would dislike it. Tell good Mrs. Cadogan we are all nurses here & will do the best we can for her. How happy we shall be to see her at Cranwich. Love to dearest Horatia & Ann. God bless you, my dear friend. Believe me ever.

'I shall adore Mr. Rose if he does what he talks of.'

919. A. L. S. from the same to the same. No date (June 24th, 1807).

3 pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'I was happy to see by your letter, my dear friend, that the time was drawing so near when we might expect the pleasure of seeing you at Cranwich. This last fortnight seems, indeed, a time of fatigue. But a few weeks at Cranwich, where solitude has unbounded sway (for Mr. Bolton must be in town before the fifth & Mrs. Pierson is going to leave us), will, I hope, quite recruit you for a more cheerful excursion; but this I must say, nowhere will you meet with more affection & attention, and where so natural?—have we not both lost our dearest & best friend? I am glad you found out who the tickets were for. I should have been sorry those Berneys & Atkins should have received any favor from you. I am glad Charlotte is going with you. She will find out she will have no such pleasant parties as you can introduce her to. I hope I shall hear from you after the masquerade all news about it. When you have fixed your day of rest & packing, write to me; a very short notice will do for us, as we shall be so happy to see you all.

'God bless you till we meet. Ever,' &c.

'Mr. Bolton, Mrs. Pierson, & my daughter join in kindest regards.'

920. A. L. S. from Mr. Bolton to the same. Date 'Saturday, 24th' (July, 1807). 1 page 8vo., with Superscription. [P.]

'Yesterday Mr. North, joining us in a party to Vauxhall, mentioned his intention of calling upon your Ladyship before he left town, and has kindly offered to take me down on Wednesday next if your Ladyship should be at home, of which I am to inform him as soon as I receive your answer. I shall certainly come. Knowing that Mrs. Cadogan will not be far from Richmond, I shall add no more, reserving everything until we meet, yours,' &c.

921. A. L. S. from Sir Alexander Ball to the same. Dated Malta, August 21st, 1807. 2 pages 4to. [P.]

'I beg you to be assured that I shall always feel much flattered and highly gratified in being introduced to your friends and having an occasion of showing them kindnesses. I have seen Madame de Carbara, who makes but a short stay here.

'This will be presented to you by Mrs. Graffer, who looks cheerful and well. She talks of returning to Sicily, but I think that doubtful—so much will depend on the conduct of Ministers in these momentous times. Had our dear Hero been alive and made Viceroy, that island might be saved from the iron grasp of Bonaparte—indeed, nothing short of the most energetic measures can prevent its falling into the Napoleonic vortex.

'Adieu, my dear Lady Hamilton. Pray write to me whenever I can be useful, and believe me always, with the highest respect and esteem,' &c.

922. A. L. S. from Mr. Thomas Bolton to the same. Dated Byfleet, August 23rd, 1807. 3 pages 4to., with Superscription and Seal. [P.]

'By some mistake you have directed Anne's letter to Eliza to me, and she, I suppose, your letter to Eliza; therefore, instead of having a letter from you, as I flattered myself by the direction I had it turned out not to be so, to my great mortification, & I felt it the more as I am very anxious to answer my friend's letter, who begged of me to write soon. If you can let me know how long you intend staying at Worthing, then I shall be able to manage so that you can have the grouse sent to you there without going to Merton first, but you must give me your address. I hope when you write again you will not be so unfortunate as you were in this. Pray give me all the news you can to write Sir William, as I am purposely delaying his letter till I hear from you. To my great regret I have not heard from Norfolk yet, but, from Anne's I presume they are alive. I am very happy to hear that Lady Bolton is with you, as I think the sea air will be of service to her. You have seen Mr & Mrs. Matcham; pray how do you like their house and grounds, & what do you think of my cousins? Which do you think sings, plays, or is the prettiest, and what is the name of the place they are living, as I have entirely forgot, & I wish to write Sir William everything & should like to be correct? Does George go to Cambridge this year as usual? Have the great folks left town for Canterbury yet, as they were only talking about it the last time I heard about them? Pray do you like Worthing as much as you did Southend? I suppose Mrs. Cadogan is improving now very fast as to her health. Do you not find that the bathing is very beneficial both to you & Horatia? Give my kind love to her, Mrs. Cadogan, Kate, Anne, & all the rest of your party. I am afraid you find my letters very insipid for want of news, which it is impossible for me to get here. I am fully engaged in business during all the week, so that I am not sorry when Sunday comes that I may rest myself a little & write to a few of my friends & take a little ride, as I shall do this afternoon in order to put this into the Post-office, which is about three miles from here.

'Tell my Lady B. to give you her direction to Sir William, as I do not know whether I am to direct to Plymouth Dock or not. Likewise tell Anne I shall not send her letter into Norfolk. Once more, adieu.'



923. A. L. S. from Lady Bolton to the same. Dated 'Sunday, noon' (August 24th, 1807). 1 page 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'We are very much surprised at not hearing from you to say how you like your residence at Worthing. As you promised so positively to write directly, the only thing we can imagine is some mistake in the direction. We are anxious to know how you are, and whether Horatia has derived benefit from bathing. I have heard from none of my friends since you left us. The boy is waiting, so I have only time to say will unite in love to all.

'The proper direction is: Ashfold Lodge, near Horsham.'

924. A. L. S. from Mr. A. Warrington to the same. Dated Messina, September 29th, 1807. 3 pages 4to., with Superscription and Seal. [P.]

'I received your letter of the 10th June by Mrs. Corbara; poor woman, her situation is very uncomfortable; however, I will do all I can for her. I have been promised a passage for her by the first transport for Capri, where her husband is now, and will give her a letter to the Colonel of the regiment, which may be of some comfort to her. Pray remember me to Lord and Lady Henry Fitzgerald,\* our old acquaintances at Naples.

'You ask me when we shall return to England; I see no chance of it at present, though our situation in Sicily does not appear quite secure. Still, I have more faith in our little British army here than to suppose they will let us be turned out by the French as we were at Naples. Perhaps if a general peace was to take place then we might be induced to return home, but of that there seems but little chance.

'Messina is but a miserable place; if it was not for the English that are here it would be intolerable. The situation is certainly beautiful, but there are no roads, so that you see the country at a distance without being able to enjoy it, and, from the bad Government that exists, provisions are both bad and dear.

'Mrs. Graffier is by this time, I suppose, in England; she left this last month. Poor woman, I am afraid she was a good deal reduced in her circumstances. She was in Messina some days, but never called. I am glad she is gone home for her daughter's sake. By all accounts she wanted education, which she would never have acquired in Sicily. I am glad to hear of my dear little Caroline; they say she is growing a fine girl. By the last packet but one I sent her a coral necklace and her mother a shawl; I hope they have received them safe. I do not hear from them as often as I should like, but distance is a sad thing!

'Annarella is grown a great girl—you would not know her. We do not see a great deal of company, but she is better amused dividing her time between reading, drawing, and music, which she is very fond of. Adieu! With joint remembrances, believe me,' &c.

925. A. L. S. from Lady Bolton to the same. Dated Brancaster, October 18th (1807). 3 pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'I ought to fill this letter with apologies for not having written before, but I fear you will consider that as worse than leaving you to make them for me, as it will oblige you to read a long account of various circumstances which prevented my writing so soon as I wished. The principal is my uncle having been ill (which you have heard from my mother), and having been ill with a violent cold myself ever since he got better. I hope you will not attribute my silence to an intention of neglecting you; I have no friend for whom I have a sincerer regard than yourself, nor any to whom I owe so much for numberless attentions and obligations of many kinds which I can never for one moment forget, but must ever feel truly grateful for. I conclude you are returned to Merton and shall direct this

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\* Lord Henry Fitzgerald, 1761-1829, was the fourth son of the 1st Duke of Leinster. He married in 1791 Charlotte, Baroness de Ros.

letter there. I have heard nothing at present of your promised visit to Cranwich; I hope you have not given up the plan, as I have anticipated much pleasure in the promised meeting. I hope Horatia is quite recovered from her illness, children of her age are always thin from growing so much. Caroline is quite as thin as Horatia was when I saw her last; she desires her love to Horatia. Emma is talking to me, desiring me to give her love to Mrs. Cadogan; she is grown even fatter than when you left her. Mrs. Pierson desires to be affectionately remembered to you all; she is quite well, out a great deal directing the improvements they have been making here, which I think you will approve. Give my love to my dear Anne; I have the same request to make her for forgiveness as I have to you, but I trust you will both judge from your own hearts how much I love you. She will be sorry to hear poor Mr. Tom Wild is dead; he died about ten days back, leaving a widow and seven children, all young. He was not ill more than ten days, he is regretted by all who knew him. Write to me soon, my dear Lady H., to assure me of your forgiving my silence. All unite in love to you, Anne and Horatia, not forgetting Mrs. Cadogan, who is deservedly remembered by all who ever experienced her kind attentions, which are all who ever had the pleasure of seeing her. Believe me,' &c.

926. A. L. S. from Mrs. Bolton to the same. Dated 'Monday morning' (October 19th, 1807). 3 pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'I was, my dear Lady, very much pleased with your last letter to find Mr. Rose was such a kind friend to you & dear Horatia, I only hope it will be shewn shortly, for every year weakens her claim, new people shoot up. I wish I could hear Mr. Canning was exerting himself as much, somehow I fancy he has most power. Your two *old* beaus, why do they not come forward like men & say, "My dear friend, you have too little for the good things of this world, & I have superabundance, therefore take of mine." Would you not say so to your friend? I know you would.

'Do you recollect Mrs. Wild who dined at Merton with Mrs. Andrews? Poor woman, she has just buried her husband, left with seven small children, & scarcely got well of her confinement.

'Our young peer, I find, is flying about the country; he has been staying with Mr. Wilson (I mean Dick Wilson); he has been to Bury Fair, to the Sessions ball at Norwich, & is now staying with Mr. Barny at Lord Baynings. He talks of being at the Swaffham Coursing Meeting Ball, where, if I am there, I shall see him, not else, I am *sure*.

'How much you must have to hear from Mrs. Greffer. Where is King & Queen of Naples? Have they, as the papers say, left Sicily? The Duke of Clarence has been on a visit last week to Houghton & Holkham, he went to Lynn and accepted the freedom of the town. I feel rather sorry they behaved so ill to our dear Lord, I shall never like Lynn again. Tell Mrs. Cadogan we have not had a hare in the house yet. Mr. Bolton has not been out or she should have had one. Give my love to Anne, and tell her she shall have a letter soon. How fortunate Mrs. Nichols is in marrying her nieces. Mrs. Gibson might well say she liked old men best. We all join in love to you, & believe me,' &c.

927. A. L. S. from the same to the same. Dated 'Sunday morning' (November 3rd, 1807). 3 pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'How good you are, my dear Lady, to write to me so often; I wish I could write anything to amuse you, then would you hear oftener from me. I have just been reading the papers, & find how shamefully they have behaved to the King of France. What was (*to us*) this calamitous war for? Was it not to reinstate the Bourbon family on the throne? And now for fear of offending the *Usurper* have England refused to let him land on her shores. What a shame for Brittons. You who have been such a friend to *Royalty* must feel your heart spurn at them. Mr. Bolton is off to-morrow for Cambridge to meet his son; poor fellow, he is now entering the world, I hope he will be what he now is—*good*, & then he will be



comparatively *happy*. I hope Mr. Rose will procure something for him ; I do not wish him for the Church, *we have* no interest *there*. Depend upon it our young Lord will think of W<sup>m</sup> Yonge in *preference*.

'I admire your address to dear Horatia ; let me hear her answer and all about your fête. I wrote to her and Anne to be received on their birthday. I hope she delivered Mr. Bolton's message to say how happy he should be to see you at Cranwich, & I am sure *I shall*. Tom will be home in Dec<sup>r</sup>, perhaps you will come then ; I know that will be an inducement to Mrs. Cadogan.

'Lady Bolton and Emma are not returned from Brancaster, but expect her in a few days for the Coursing Meeting Ball. Mrs. S. Bolton is happy in having her son safe home. Capt. Bolton was at Copenhagen ; he had the command of the fort which in fact did all the business ; he behaved so bravely as to have the thanks of the Commander-in-Chief and the congratulations of all his brother officers. I know not how you feel, but for my part I sicken when I hear any naval exploit ; God knows how heavy *my heart* is.

'I do not know what Lady Charlotte's [talents?] may be, not to any great extent ; but when she went to school as a child the governess was told she was to attend to nothing but her *music*. As to writing, she always had a master when with you, & her hand was good enough. What the substance was I know not, having never had the honour of a letter from her. Accept love and respects from all here. God bless you, my dear friend. Yours, &c.

928. A. L. S. from Mr. Thomas Bolton to the same. Dated Peterhouse, Cambridge, November 22nd, 1807. 3¼ pages 4to., with Superscription and Seal. [P.]

'I am afraid you will think me very neglectful in not writing to you before, but I flatter myself you will excuse me when I say that it has really not been in my power to write to anybody yet, for I am so unsettled even now that I scarcely know what I am about ; in fact, I have not an hour that I can call my own, for I am so engaged in preparing for lectures. I am going this evening to take my supper with my friend Hodgson. Lord T. did me the honour to call upon me once, & I returned the visit very soon after, but he was not at home, and I have not seen anything of him since. My cousin Henery Girdlestone being here makes it very pleasant to me ; indeed, I hardly know what I should have done if he had not been here. He lives at Catherine Hall, which is very near to our college, so that we constantly see one another every day. If you should ever come to Cambridge whilst I am here, I am afraid you would not be able to come into my rooms to see me, for I live in a garret, and there is a terrible bad staircase to lead up to them, and the entrance into the room is so low that it would very near break your back to stoop to get in ; but, after you had overcome all these difficulties, I think you would say my rooms were pleasant for garrets. I received a letter from home the other day. They were all very well ; had been to the Swaffham Coursing Meeting Ball, they had 200 people there, which is a great number for Swaffham. Indeed, they went a large party themselves—Becca, Anne Girdlestone, & Lady Bolton, in a post-chaise ; William Girdlestone, Mrs. Comyns, my mother, Eliza, & Susanna, in the carriage ; Tom & Mr. King on horseback. They kept it up till about 3 o'clock in the morning. Tom, my mother, Lady Bolton, & Mrs. Comyns, went home that night ; the rest stop'd & went to a dance the next night which Mrs. Day gave. They kept that up till 3 o'clock, so I think they will not want another ball quite yet. Sir William, I understand, is arrived at Plymouth, & we hope to have the pleasure of seeing him in this part of the world. I always feel very low of a Saturday & Sunday, not being able to come down to Merton to see you all. I am afraid it will be a long time before I see such times again. I suppose you heard how well my cousin, Samuel Bolton, behaved at Copenhagen—had the thanks from all the officers. My dear Lady, I must now conclude with my kind love to Mrs. Cadogan, Horatia, Anne, & the rest of the party. Pray favour me with a letter soon, as I am very anxious to hear how you are all going on, & whether Mrs. Nelson has left you. I remain, &c.

929. A.L.S. from Mrs. Matcham to the same. Dated 'Sunday morning' (November 22nd, 1807). 3 pages 4to., with Superscription and Seal. [P.]

'I hope you will not think me neglectful of all your kindness in not writing more frequently to you, but, as this dull season will only furnish me with a repetition of storms and rain, which we have experienced in a high degree this last ten days, I am only induced to take up my pen to inquire after all our friends at Merton, & to hope they have not suffer'd by the severity of the weather. We may think ourselves very fortunate in not receiving sorry damage, as such a storm is scarcely remember'd as we had on Thursday night. We see by the papers Mr. Rose's son was driven back by the high wind. I hope *your affairs* will not be retarded, & that everything will end for your benefit. I am sure no one will rejoice more at any good fortune that attends you than ourselves. When you have an opportunity, I know you will not be unmindful of the *circumstance* which I have so much at heart, & which *you & I* agreed would be of so much service to my family, & surely *an honor to them*.

'I have rec<sup>d</sup> a letter from Mrs. Coehoorn, who has heard from the Col. at Wibourg, & I hope he is well. With him, as a prisoner of war, is a Capt. Dobson, who says he was a protégé of our *dear-lamented friend!* Do you know him, my Lady? Poor young man! I hope it will not retard his promotion, & that the Col. and him will soon be relieved, as they are only detain'd for being Englishmen. I expect Mrs. Coehoorn next week. Our young friend is highly delighted with his profession; he expresses himself very grateful to you & your kind exertions for him, & I hope he will be an honor and a comfort to his good mother. I hope soon to hear from you, my dear Lady. With the united best wishes of our fireside to all, & a thousand kisses, &c., to Horatia, not forgetting cousin Ann, I remain,' &c.

930. A. L. S. from 'Mari' Thomas to the same. Dated Hawarden, November 27th, 1807. 2 pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'Your favour I rec<sup>d</sup>, and be assur'd that I will to the best of my abilities fulfil your commissions. I am truly sorry that you have so much trouble with your relations, and the ungrateful return your care and generosity meets with is, indeed, enough to turn their heart against them. However, ungrateful as they are, your own generous heart cannot see them in want, and it is a pitty that your great generosity towards them shou'd be so ill-placed. I don't doubt but that you receive a satisfaction in doing for them, which will reward you here and hereafter. I sent for Mr. Kid upon the recp<sup>t</sup> of your letter. I believe he has been much distressed for some time back, as at this time of the year there is no employment suitable to him, for, as he observes he was not brought up to work. I have promis'd to pay for his lodging, and have pass'd my word to pay for his meat till I hear from your Ladyship. I have not acquainted him with your inclos'd five pounds for fear he might expect to have some of it; in my opinion the less pockit-money he has the better, for it wou'd onely be spent in the ale house, and then he gets abusive, so shall keep it for furthers *orders*, tho' I have order'd him a hatt, a pair of shoes, three pair of strong stockings & some colour'd hand. for his neck; has to his upper clothing, they may do till spring. I sent for Becka Rynold; she begs her duty, but is sorry it is not in her power to board Mr. Kidd. Mrs. Newcomb has sent for a bed, and she has not another to spare, otherwise she wou'd be happy to do anything your Ladyship shou'd require. Mrs. Nichol, Mr. Kid's relation, is going to give up the publick line & live in a small house. If agreeable to you, and you approve of her terms, she will be glad to board him; but she attaches a od request, which is, as her circumstances is but limited, to pay a quarter board in advance. She expects ten shilling p<sup>r</sup> week & 6 pence for washing, for which beer & eatables found him—consequently he will not need pockit-money. He has incur'd some debts, which I have inserted underneath, & the which you will give me your orders when you write, weather you wou'd wish them discharged. There is £2 1s. left unpaid by Richard Rynolds for cloths, which your Ladyship sent money in part for; for shoes & mending, 18s.; Mrs. Humphries for lodging, 8s.; Mrs. Nicol, 12s.; Wilm. Rynold,

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2s. I cou'd wish an answer to this soon, as now I have answer'd for logs and board, the charge perhaps will be more then when settled; but be assur'd your generosity shall not be impos'd upon, & believe me,' &c.

'P.S.—My daughter joins with me in best love & respects to Mrs. Cadogan & your Ladyship.'

931. A. L. S. from Mrs. Bolton to the same. Dated 'Sunday, noon' (November 29th, 1807). 3 pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'Many thanks, my dear Lady, for thinking of such a *little body* as myself in the midst of royalty. Mr. Bolton will be much obliged to His Royal Highness for the tobacco to be sent here; *you must deliver the message in your own name*, we are not in the habit of sending & speaking to such great personages. You delight me by saying Horatia has so much notice taken of her. I hope, when she is introduced at Windsor, George our King will fall in love with her, & give her a good pension out of his privy purse. He ought to have a fellow-feeling, for, like her, he has lost a *great* supporter. I may say this to you, and indeed it is true.

'Sr W<sup>m</sup> does not leave us till Tuesday evening. If it is possible he will be at Merton, but I fear not; at any rate he will write from town, he wishes much to pay his respects to you.

'What a bountiful supply of food you have sent us! I see you are with us for *clothing the naked* & feeding the hungry. I only wish you had fortune equal to your generosity. How does the old Duke *do* this severe weather?

'Tom is but a bad correspondent to any of us. He is now fully determined to study very hard; he never writes but on a Sunday, & that but once when he heard Emma was ill. Do not accuse him of ingratitude—that he never will be, he is too fond of you all for that. I am sorry to say we are a large party, but have been ill with sore throats, servants, &c. Poor Capt. Langford went home & has got the same complaint. The poor little child Partridge has been very ill, & lost the use of her limbs. Mr. Edgar has told them she has not her proper senses; the poor mother had no idea of such a thing. She is much affected, & thinks it cruel none of her friends would inform her of it. Yours,' &c.

932. A. L. S. from the same to the same. Dated Cranwich, December 8th (1807). 3 pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'Here we are, my dear Lady, all our large party separated—at least, will be this week—except Mrs. Pierson, who takes the opportunity, when Tom comes home, to go in the carriage to Cambridge in her way to dear Merton. You have seen Sr W<sup>m</sup>, he was determined to see you, if for only one half-hour; he says he never spent such happy days in his life. He seems delighted with his wife and child, & happy to see all his friends around him; a melancholy parting, you may suppose. Poor Mrs. Pierson and myself, from a double cause we cannot forget our last fatal *partings*, & when Sr W<sup>m</sup> said he had never spent such a happy time before, my heart sank *within me*.

'How favoured you have been by their Royal Highnesses passing so many days with you. I do not wonder their liking Merton & *your* society. Did the Prince of Wales spend more than one day with you? Poor Blindy! had I been in her place I should have kept my room the time they were there—at least the Prince. We are going to dine at Saham on Thursday. It is supposed when Mr. Motte marrys, Mr. Rolfe will look about for a wife, but she must have a good fortune & in present possession. Now where that lady is to be found who will have my cousin Robbin, is a matter of doubt with me. How does Mrs. Cadogan this severe weather? She must be carefull of cold. We have throughout the house—servants and all—had a severe throat and fever. I was at Swaffham yesterday, but no news could I hear; dull enough I assure you. Emma sends her love to Miss Horatia, and pray give mine to her, Anne, and all your party. We drank your health on your presents, and nobody's more sincerely. I hear Mr. Matcham means to bring George to Cambridge himself, and intends visiting Mr. Rolfe, of course visiting me. As it will be in March I shall take the opportunity of coming up with him. You see I am planing to visit you. God bless you, my dear Lady, & believe me,' &c.

933. A. L. S. from the Rt. Hon. George Rose to the same. Dated Old Palace Yard, December 14th, 1807. 2 pages 4to. [H.]

'When I came to town I did not expect to be detained more than two or three days, or I should have written to Mr. Matcham on the subject about which he and you spoke to me ; but as nothing can be done in it without a communication with Mr. Bolton, it can not suffer by a delay till I am settled in town after Christmas.

'I saw Mr. Newcomb, and learned from him that he should like to be purser of an Indiaman as well as any situation that could be procured for him. My success this year is uncertain, but not desperate, as you will see by the inclosure from the Member for Dorchester, who is a great East-India ship-owner. If I fail now, I think I can be sure of succeeding next season. I will certainly do all I can to prevent a disappointment to a man who suffered by the death of Lord Nelson—would to God I could do so in instances more deeply interesting ! I never exerted myself in any occasion in my life more with my whole heart, and I deeply lament my want of success.

'I stay for a meeting of Lord Nelson's trustees on the 17th. He wishes to have an estate of Mr. Suckling's in Norfolk bought for the family. I am, dear madam, your,' &c.

934. A. L. S. from Mrs. Bolton to the same. Dated Cranwich, December 16th, 1807. 3 pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'I received your always welcome letter. Mrs. Pierson is set out for Cambridge this morning (accompanied by Susanna & Eliza, that for to escort their brother back). She expects to be at Merton on Thursday evening ; she said she should write you, but it would be at Merton. Thank you kindly for speaking to Mr. Rose about Tom, & I truly hope he will do something for *him*. I am anxious about him ; he is coming into the world, & we are going out, & was it not for the sake of my daughters we might as well live in the country.

'The Royal Family are quite right to support Mrs. Billington.\* All the world have forsaken us, and why should we support them when we have those of equal abilities ; surely it would be no encouragement. We have had letters from Sr W<sup>m</sup> Bolton ; he had his father at Plymouth with him for a few days, which made him rather idle.

'I was surprized at the intelligence of Mr. Suckling selling his estate, but Mr. Bolton said he guessed as much by what the young Lord said here about the timber, &c. I hear he had left in his will that it should be valued & offered to our lamented Lord, & if he liked it there was to be £500 less taken than of any other person. Whether the Earl will be offered the same is a query. Mr. Bolton is quite impatient for his *princely* tobacco. When does your business come on ? I am impatient till something is done for *you*. Do not delay it a moment longer than is absolutely necessary. With or without the child, if you are well provided for, she can never *want*, & depend upon it she will marry *well*. My letter may be stupid, but I have no chit-chat to tell you of. We all join in kindest love to *you* & all your circle. Believe me,' &c.

935. A. L. S. from Earl Nelson to Mrs. Maurice Nelson. Dated Canterbury, January 5th, 1808. 1 page 4to., with Superscription and Seal. [P.]

'I have received your letter. You may always rest secure that I never forget my promises or engagements one moment after they become due. Mr. Haslewood received £25 from me ten days ago, which I requested him to transmit to you—probably it may be at Greenwich even now. We beg to be kindly remembered to Lady Hamilton & all friends at Merton. Your obedient,' &c.

\* Elizabeth Billington, *circa* 1768-1818, one of the greatest singers England has produced. She first appeared at a public concert at Oxford at the age of 14, and first sang in London in 1786. During 1801 she made from 10,000*l.* to 15,000*l.*, and at one time her fortune is said to have amounted to 60,000*l.*



936. A. L. S. from Mrs. Bolton to Lady Hamilton. Dated 'Tuesday, noon' (February 17th, 1808). 3 pages 4to., with Superscription and Seal. [P.]

'At length, after being almost buried in the snow, the mail begins again to arrive in proper time, & I am set down to chat with you. How are your invalids? I fear this severe weather has not forwarded good Mrs. Cadogan, but I hope the warm weather, which we are likely to have with the spring, will quite restore her. God grant it may, & spare her to you for many years. I think Mr. Matcham & my spouse are in too great a hurry about changing the name; the poor young man\* is scarcely cold in his coffin, & do not think they have shewn much feeling for his parents. Some months hence very well—at least, that is my idea therein, regarding me is nothing, I act as my heart dictates, & so do they, perhaps you will say—enough of this.

'The young ladies desire their love to Anne & Horatia, & beg to inform them that they had the most beautiful valentines that can be; they were so pretty that nothing but Clarges Street could produce. As to Emma, she is now come to tell Miss Horatia all about it, she has got a very pretty Mr. Kisseem all.

'We shall, I hope, have a happy meeting & jaunt to Ashfold. I mean upon this occasion to be absent six weeks—3 with you & 3 with my sister, of which I hope you will partake with me. We have not heard from Mrs. Pierson since she left you. As to Mr. Bolton, we are expecting him home now every day, as the weather is breaking up. If you see him, tell [him] his *sheep* are all alive and well, tho' some have been buried in the snow. Emily is *here*, a small party at Brancaster, Mrs. B., Miss B., & Mrs. Girdlestone, for a beau, Henry Girdlestone; they make a party at cards every evening, & are very chearfull. I have not heard from Tom lately, but hear he is well, as the *Archdeacon Yonge* called on him on his way down. We are anxiously looking for news of the Rochfort squadron, I hope soon to hear of their defeat. Did I ever think I should be anxious about any fleet again? But somehow the navy must always be interesting to me. I may say I suck'd it with my mother's milk, for she was quite a heroine for the sailors.

'God bless you, my dear friend. Believe me,' &c.

'P.S.—The girls all beg their love.'

937. A. L. S. from Mrs. Matcham to the same. Dated March 10th, 1808. 2 pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'I should have wrote to you before to thank for your kind exertions for us to Mr. Rose; indeed he has shown himself a kind friend upon all occasions. Mr. M. intended being in town this week, but the weather is so very severe he is afraid of venturing from home. We are very low and unwilling to move, as you *may suppose*, though, thank God, our young folks are all well, & I trust the summer's sun will in some degree cheer us. I had a letter from my sister last week, she talks of coming soon, and I reckon very much of seeing her, & I hope when she has left us you will give us the happiness of your company for a few days, which is *all* I can ask you to spare from the gay world. I am delighted to hear of your going to all these great parties; London is certainly the place for your constant residence, where you can enjoy the society of your friends, without the immense expence of entertaining their servants, which you are obliged to do in the country. I hope to hear in your next that Mrs. Cadogan is quite recover'd, to whom & to all your party we beg to be kindly remember'd, not forgetting my dear Horatia, & accept our sincere good wishes from, my dear Lady Hamilton, your affectionate,' &c.

938. Doc. S. 'J. Willock.' Dated Golden Square, April 4th, 1808. 1 page folio. [P.]

'*The Particulars of Lady Hamilton's Villa at Merton, in the Parishes of Mitcham and Wimbledon, in the County of Surrey.*

'The House with the Offices, Lawns, Shrubberies, Canals, Plantations, Farm

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\* Referring to the death of Viscount Merton, which had taken place a month before the date of the letter.

House, Barns, Stables, Outbuildings, Yards, and Four Inclosures of Land, situate altogether within a Ring Fence, and bounded on the North & West by the Turnpike Road from London to Epsom, and on the East partly by Merton Abbey Lane, in the Parish of Mitcham.

And

the Kitchen Garden, Gardener's House, Plantation, and Three Inclosures of Meadow Land, lying all within a Ring Fence opposite the House, and bounded on the south by the said Turnpike Road, east by the Road from Merton to Wandsworth, west by the Road from Merton Turnpike, and north by a common footpath in the Parish of Wimbledon, which contain altogether seventy-two acres, or thereabout, and are all Freehold.

'I have carefully surveyed the above described Premises, and I am	
of opinion they are worth the sum of	... .. £10,430
'And that the furniture and effects in the House, Offices, Gardens,	
and Grounds are worth the sum of	... .. 2,500
	<hr/> £12,930

939. A. L. S. from Mrs. Bolton to Lady Hamilton. Dated 'Friday morning' (April 8th, 1808). 3 pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'I was made very happy by receiving your letter; we were very dull & stupid after you left us, and such miserable weather, not seen the sight of the sun till this day. Mrs. Cadogan is very good and kind to take Anne to Merton, I have the highest opinion of Mrs. Parrot's abilities & Mrs. C.'s nursing. I hope in God she will recover, if not she must try her native air; to say truth, I am very unhappy about her, she grows so fast. At all events, I hope your business will be so far settled to your satisfaction that you will be able to accompany me home where (notwithstanding Mrs. V.) you will receive a most sincere & cordial welcome from all the family. Are we not obliged to you, I may say, for whatever is done by Government and your own kindness?

'What a dreadful shock must the death of Mr. Lambert\* be to you; he appeared such a good and placid man, but that nasty money is ruin of us all one way or other. Poor woman, she is left to bear not only the loss of her husband but her fortune. Good God, what a severe stroke to her. Write us all the news you can, we have a dearth of that here. We read and work and talk in the day, in the evening a party of cards, but not me, I read, I never play cards, that is whist, but with you. Tell Horatia she has left many lovers behind her, her cousins all love her, but none more than her aunts. Give our kind love to Anne, best respects to Mrs. Cadogan, our compliments to Mrs. Greffer. You will be glad to hear poor old Clark is dead. Poor Bidy is very sorry for him. Do you understand, I mean the old shepherd at Cranwich?

'The man is waiting for my letter to set forth for Horsham. The best love of this party attend you. Believe me,' &c.

940. A. L. S. from Mr. Bolton to the same. Dated May 2nd (1808). 1½ pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'I need not tell you how pleased we all felt at the good news you communicated, and not the less from the thoughts of the disappointment it will be to our enemy, who, I think, deserves it.

'I feel the kindness of Mr. Rose, and I think every one who hears of it must think highly of him; he has shewn that he strictly regards his promise even to the dead. I could not tell what to make of your comp<sup>ts</sup> to S<sup>r</sup> W<sup>m</sup> & Lady Bolton, but this morning, at 4 o'clock, he & H<sup>y</sup> G. arrived from Cambridge, he had stopt a day at Tottenham. My son will be here on Monday, as Mr. Hagget can not receive him for a fortnight. I would not have you make yourself uneasy about selling Merton, necessity has no law; it would have been better had you sold at first, you know I always advised you to do it. Never fear, I have no doubt we shall do well from the good wishes of him that's gone to heaven, & to disappoint the wicked. I do

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\* Mr. Lambert was an eminent stockbroker, who had committed suicide April 4th. After his death it was discovered that his affairs were greatly embarrassed.



not know if they have acquainted you the child has been very bad, but, thank God, she is now quite recovered. I hope we shall see you soon. Dinner is ready. God bless you,' &c.

941. A. L. S. from Miss Anne Bolton to the same. Dated Bradenham, May 4th (1808).  $1\frac{1}{2}$  pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'You will, I know, my dear Lady, be grieved to hear of the severe illness of my dear mother. She has, if you remember, long been unwell. Lately she has been much worse. Her complaint is extreme weakness; indeed, she has hardly any strength left, & what little now she has seems dayly to diminish. We sent to Norwich for better advice, but I fear. . . .

'Ah! my dear Lady, *you know* how to pity us, and can easily imagine our anxiety on such an occasion. God only knows how long she may continue with us, and now in God alone I put my trust, there is hope, I fear that is all. She is at present able to come down stairs. You know her mildness at all times, but I think it is more visible at this time than ever. We have got my aunt Girdlestone with us, and also my aunt Bolton, which is some comfort, as the first is so good a nurse. You will, I hope, write, and if you can think of anything you fancy my dear mother would wish to hear, pray write, as she will wish me to read her what you say. She has often wished to hear from you, therefore, pray write. I can only say I will write again if we see any great change, and that [it] may be the better is, as you may suppose, the continual prayer of your,' &c.

942. A. L. S. from Sir William Bolton to the same. Dated 'H. M. S. *Eurydice*, May 6th (1808), Channel Fleet.'  $2\frac{1}{4}$  pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'I have just time to send my best wishes for your Ladyship's health and prosperity, as a cutter is leaving the fleet for Plymouth instantly, & whilst others have been writing, the Admiral has sent me a chasing. I returned from the coast of America to this place on the 28th of April, since which time Admiral Sotheby has thought proper to keep me with him off Ushant. Your Ladyship will feel how great has been my disappointment at not being suffered to go into port after so tedious a cruize, particularly as I have received advice from the Admiralty of my appointment to the *Druid*, & I am ordered by their Lordships to take up my commission for her at Plym<sup>t</sup>. I learnt the death of poor Trafalgar at the Western Islands, where I put in to water; but I am still ignorant of the cause of his death, yet not more ignorant than my Admiral who, when I asked him, could tell me nothing about it. We are in daily expectation of a cutter from Lord Gardner, who I hope will take pity upon poor *Eurydice* & order her in, when I hope to be enabled to visit Merton, as the *Druid* is on a cruize off the Azores, & I hope to be immediately superceded. We are all agog at the rumour of the Emperor of Russia's death, & of his brother Constantine. What credit is given to it in town I cannot say. Two days ago I boarded a privateer brigg going out on a cruize; who should I find to be her commander but a stout mustachio'd man—the Baron Homspech. I wrote to Kate this morning, but as yet have received no letters of any kind since my leaving Rochfort the latter end of January. Your Ladyship will believe me very impatient to hear of your welfare. In hopes you will compassionate my anxiety, I must, as ever, subscribe myself,' &c.

'P.S.—I intreat my best respects & love to your good mother, to Horatia, Anne, & Mrs. Graffer. From the beginning of my letter your Ladyship will see that I am *full of hopes*.'

943. A. L. S. from Mr. G. Matcham, with A. L. S. from Mrs. Matcham to the same. No date (May 8th, 1808).  $2\frac{1}{2}$  pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'What you have written us in respect to the Earl has quite astonish'd me. I could never have conceiv'd he could have so betray'd Tom Bolton, but it is

evident that he is as great an enemy to us as our dear lost friend was our patron. The extinction of the whole family would be a matter of the greatest exultation to him, with the exception of his own dear self and Lady Charlotte. God only knows what his shocking rancour will lead to, but while this man exists, I can safely say there is one person with whom I would not exchange situation, moral or worldly. God mend him and preserve his wife, a wish comprising his punishment and his restoration. In respect to the change of the name, he cannot say it is any personal pride that has made me anxious to assume that of the good & noble Viscount, that I should feel the honour is most true, but I desir'd Mr. Haslewood to say that my anxiety was for Mrs. M. and our children to enjoy the honour and the advantage, & that I was very willing to descend to the grave as plain George Matcham; but the man is a rancorous foe to his sisters and their offspring.

'Can you come down with Eliza? Mrs. M. takes the pen from me to solicit. Believe me,' &c.

(MRS. MATCHAM to LADY HAMILTON.)

'I hope & trust if you have any thought of leaving this country you will let us know in time that we may spend a few days together. I w<sup>d</sup> rather see you in our little habitation than go to town, where I know it will be all hurry and confusion; but I hope you are not going. This is a *selfish wish*, I own, & had we peace, it would be for your comfort to leave this country. If the name of our dearest angel is taken we must all have it, for *I will never take one* that my good husband is not allowed to have. If it will be of service to my children to assume it, we will give it up to them, but I don't think *you* will approve this plan. Let a family sink or swim together, if equally deserving.

'How happy we should be to see you with Eliza for a few days. I hope she will come when you have shown her all the gay parties.

'With our kindest love to all, believe me,' &c.

944. A. L. S. from Mrs. Bolton to the same. Dated 'Sunday morning' (May 15th, 1808). 3 $\frac{1}{4}$  pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'We arrived here on Friday evening a little fatigued, for I do not yet feel quite strong, but the country and fine weather will, I hope, restore me my usual health. I find home the only place for a weak old woman. How I wish you were with us; it would do you so much good to what hot rooms and large parties. At this time of the year, it seems to me the strangest thing in the world that people should prefer crowded rooms to the delightful air of the country. You have been very kind in taking Eliza out with you so much; I hope she has left town, as I fear her aunt will think she neglects her if she stays any longer. By a letter from Brancaster to-day we learn the death of poor Mrs. Foley. Poor young creature—only 24! She was confined about a fortnight since of a fine girl. They did not apprehend her in immediate danger. She has left three children.

'I am glad you treated the old Duke with a sight of you in all your brilliancy. Depend upon it, it will be a thousand *pounds* more in your pocket, for he does love to look at a handsome woman; *still*, depend upon it, your person has more charms for him than all the beauties of the mind. Treat him as often as you can with a sight of you, that's the only way. I find you & Mr. Bolton correspond, & seem much of a mind in some particulars. The girls were on a visit at Swaffham when we returned home, a long engagement; very gay there this week: Mr. & Mrs. Tayler & the Days were all there for some days. The Rolfes have been in this country to make visits. I am glad they called on you; it shows a proper attention on Rolfe's part. I wonder if they called on the Countess, & how Eliza Yonge look'd. Mrs. Cadogan is, I hope, enjoying country air; I know she does not love town. Give our kindest love to Horatia & Anne. Mrs. P. & my daughters join in love to you; the former will be happy to hear from you. My comp<sup>ts</sup> to Mrs. Greffer. God bless you, my dear friend, believe me,' &c.

945. A. L. S. from the same to the same. Dated Cranwich, 'Tuesday' (May 26th, 1808). 3 pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'I was fearfull you were unwell, it was such a time, as I thought it, before I



heard from you. I know you fret a great deal ; do come into the country & lay aside your cares a few weeks (they expect you at Brancaster), it will do you good. I do hope now a few weeks will decide all our cares & fears from Government. I was surprized to see by the papers to-day the Duke of Q. was in the park—a *flash* before death, or does he never mean to depart this life ? Poor old man ! he must have outlived all his pleasure except looking at your Ladyship, which I hope he will remember with *gratitude*.

‘On Thursday we are going to dine at Saham & meet a Swaffham party, & on Friday Mr. & Mrs. Tayler come here for a few days, when we shall paper and whitewash the house for your reception. I shall not finish my letter till to-morrow, as I hope you will send us some intelligence of Mr. *Rose*.

‘Wednesday, & no letter. I know if you had but a gleam of hope you would communicate it to us. Alas ! poor Tom ! I fear he has no chance of getting anything done for him now. You, I hope, will be more successful, & that will be a comfort to us.

‘A letter from Tom to say he shall quit Cambridge on Monday fortnight for Mr. Hagget’s, but if he thought you would be there in a few days, he would wait ; if not, he will certainly see you in his way thro’ town. I have not yet left off my wraps—indeed, I have been far from well since I left you, scarcely left the house. I hope you will write soon and give a better account of yourself. How is Mrs. Cadogan ? Love to Anne & Horatia ; comp<sup>ts</sup> to Mrs. Greffer. Believe me,’ &c.

946. A. L. S. from the same to Miss Anne Bolton. Dated Cranwich, ‘Monday’ (June, 1808). 3 pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

‘You see I never forget you, altho’ not always punctual to the day. I hope my Lady will come as early in August as she can. To say the truth, I am rather glad she does not come before, as I shall now have a clean room for her, which would have been done before, but waited for her coming. We have now got painters, whitewashers, &c., full of stinks and cleanliness. You will likewise like it better, as your sisters and your niece will all be at home. Eliza you will see this week for only one night, I think, as she must go to Tottenham or, as I understand, Mrs. Robinson will be offended. She goes only for a day or two at the most, as Miss Woodthorpes is ready & her holidays have been begun some time.

‘You have seen Tom, & I hope he has paid Mr. Olliver. My index, &c., I left behind. I hear the Guild at Norwich was very splendid ; Mary Anne, moreover, was said by the Swaffham party to be the belle of the day. The Yonges did not look well, rather under-dressed, which is not usually the case *there*. Mrs. Day’s dress, Mag<sup>t</sup> her sister’s, white sarsnet ; Miss Anne looking very well indeed. How did your day pass off at the Earl’s ; we hear from Swaffham they are going to Cheltenham. Mr. Partridge is likewise going there. Susanna, your father, & myself, are the only ones at home ; he begins to grumble sadly for his g.-daughter. Kate might go where she would if she left that child behind her. Give my kind love to my Lady ; I will write in a few days to her. All send love to you, & believe me,’ &c.

947. A. L. S. from Mr. Thomas Bolton to Lady Hamilton. Dated Byfleet, July 7th, 1808. 1½ pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

‘I am now addressing myself to you on my birthday. I am happy to tell you that I never was in better spirits or happier in my life time. I hope by this time Mr. Rose has settled everything you wish’d for, & that you will be able to go into Norfolk with a mind free from troubles. I was very glad to hear you fixed Saturday for going, as I am sure you, who cannot bear the least heat, must be running a great risk of your life by remaining in town this time of the year. When you return from Norfolk, and get settled comfortably at Richmond, I shall then take the liberty of coming over to see you. You observe I do not stop for my invitation, but invite myself. If you would favour me with a letter by return of post, to let me know how you all are and what sort of a day you spent on the water, I should be very thankful. As you go thro’ Cambridge you probably wil

see Henry ; give my love to him, and make him show you my apartments. I only wish I was there ready to receive you, but, however, I hope you will come down to the commencement one year & then I certainly shall be there. Likewise remember me to all the good people at Cranwich & Brancaster, & also to your mother, Anne, Horatia, & Cecilia, & believe me,' &c.

948. A. L. S. from the Rt. Hon. George Rose to the same. Dated Old Palace Yard, July 21st, 1808.  $3\frac{1}{2}$  pages 8vo. [H.]

'I have seen Mr. Dawson this morning in consequence of my sending for him, and I find there is now a gentleman from the East Indies about the property at Merton, who is likely to give nearly £13,000 for the house, land, & fixtures—exclusive of the furniture, wine, & books, the latter I am sure should be packed up and sent to London. From all that passed with Mr. Dawson I am led to hope the sale is likely to take place, and if that should fail, I have advised the place being let, as the only possible means of putting an end to the expence, and it would produce some money to you. I would not, however, advise the letting the house except in the case of absolute necessity. I said everything to Mr. Dawson that I could to incite him to activity, and I verily believe he will now exert himself.

'I had an opportunity of a very quiet conversation with Mr. Canning on Sunday last, about the paper written by Lord Nelson just before he went into his last action, which has led to a further communication on the same subject. I repeat, what I think I before said, that there is a perfect disposition in Mr. Canning's mind to give effect to that paper, but the difficulties are, I fear, insurmountable. I can most truly assure you that I have most anxiously and conscientiously discharged all that Lord Nelson could have expected from me if he were now alive, & I am *most sincerely grieved* that I have failed of success. The point is not absolutely decided, but I should be inexcusable if I were to give you any hope.

'I leave London to-morrow, and from Cuffnells I will write to Mr. Bolton on the affairs which interest him. I am,' &c.

949. L. S. from Lady Hamilton to Lord St. Vincent. No date (July, 1808). 4 pages 4to. [P.]

'A strong sense of the deep regard which you have ever shewn, for all that relates to the welfare of our country in general, and consequently to its naval glory in particular ; with the tender recollection, how dear you thus rendered yourself to the heart of our immortal and incomparable hero, whose ardent wish it was to see your Lordship always at the head of the Admiralty, a sentiment that still pervades the bravest bosoms in the navy, have awakened in my heart a hope, after so many years of anxiety and cruel disappointment, that the public services of importance, which it was my pride as well as duty to perform, while the wife of his Majesty's Minister at the Court of Naples, may, possibly, through your Lordship's friendly and generous advice, and most able and active assistance, which I now most earnestly solicit, but a short time longer remain either unacknowledged, or unrewarded, by my King and country.

'I will not agonize the extreme sensibility of your Lordship's feeling breast, by any attempt to detail the various vicissitudes of my hapless fortunes, since the fatal day when dying Nelson bequeathed myself and his infant daughter, expressly left under my guardianship, to the munificent protection of our Sovereign and the nation. I will not arouse the just indignation of your Lordship's great and honourable mind, by reciting the many petty artifices, mean machinations, and basely deceptive tenders of friendship, which hitherto have prevented Lord Nelson's dying request from being duly heard by those to whom it is so peculiarly and pathetically addressed.

'You, my Lord, cannot be insensible of the value of my public services ; since it is to them alone I have been so many years indebted for the proud boast of possessing your friendship. As the widow of Sir William Hamilton, more than



thirty years Ambassador at the Courts of Naples and Palermo, had I never seized the opportunity, or even felt the inclination, to perform any one act of public service, I might still have expected a reasonable pension would be granted, if duly applied for, by the benevolent Monarch whom my husband had so long, so ably, and so faithfully served. Even the widow\* of Mr. Lock, only about two years Consul at Palermo, a man not remarkable either for great loyalty or the most correct attention to his official duties, had a pension assigned her almost immediately on his death, of £800 a year; while I, who have been seven years the widow of such a man as Sir William Hamilton, the foster brother of our Sovereign, and have constantly done all in my power to benefit my country, continue to be totally neglected. The widow of Mr. Fox, whose *services* to his country are, at best, very *problematical*, had instantly a grant of £1200 per annum; and even his natural daughter, Miss Willoughby, obtained a pension of £300 a year. Yet this *man of the people*, did not shed his blood for his King and country; and neither asked, nor could have expected, from them, when dying, like the noble and confiding Nelson, any such posthumous national support, as has humanely been extended to those who had thus lost their only protector. Surely the daughter of Lord Nelson, now Miss Nelson, is not less an object worthy the attention of her King and country, than Miss Willoughby, the daughter of Mr. Fox.

‘I have said, perhaps, more than enough; but the goodness of your Lordship’s heart will excuse whatever may flow from mine, however irregularly, in the act of addressing, as my assured friend, the greatest statesman that the death of Mr. Pitt has left behind.

‘Lamenting, as I feelingly, perhaps selfishly do, in common with all who have a just sense of your Lordship’s transcendent abilities, and the exigencies of our country at this eventful period, that you are not in the proper situation to act more effectually for the national security and glory, I shall in a few days, transmit you a printed copy of Lord Nelson’s dying request, prefaced by his admirable prayer for his King and country, and accompanied by the Reverend Dr. Scott’s attestation, as registered with this remarkable codicil, in Doctors Commons; and relying, with the most unbounded confidence, on your Lordship’s judgment, as to what measures may be most advisable to be pursued, for the attainment of objects so important to Miss Nelson, as well as to myself, and so dear to the heart of Britain’s greatest naval hero. I am,’ &c.

950. A. L. S. from Miss Anne Bolton to Lady Hamilton. Dated ‘Piccadilly, Friday.’ 2½ pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

‘Your note very much surprized me, as indeed I fully believed, from your long & entire neglect of me, that I was forgotten & given up by the inhabitants of Clarges St. As I have lain on a sofa by the window for a little air, I have often seen you pass, & it has more than once made my head ache to find you did not think me worth an enquiry whether I was alive or dead, altho’ I was so very ill when I exerted myself to call on you. But I said, it signifies not; in one short month I shall be gone for ever from the possibility of *witnessing* myself deserted by those I have best loved. I have been *very, very* ill, and my father and sister being absent, I felt peculiarly forlorn; had it not been for the kindness of Mrs. Harris, who devoted all her time and attention to me, I might now perhaps have been in my grave. Forgive me, my dear L<sup>y</sup> Hamilton, for taking up your time, but your note to Eliza requires a little vindication of myself. I was indeed unconscious of behaving unlike myself when last I saw you; I did think that to you, at least, my conduct was uniform. I am at a loss to know to whom you allude when you speak of false flimery & palaver; indeed, my dear friend, I have had no one near me to so indulge me if, indeed, I was fond of it, which you know is not the case, tho’ from my soul I feel every *act* and *word* of kindness. I am therefore, you may believe, sensible of your kind invitation to Merton, & could I think that low & weak & miserable as I am that I should not be a burthen on your hands, I would spend a few days with you in the next week, *perhaps the last* time I may ever be with you in this world. There is a *feeling* for you at this heart of mine that will not be conquered, & I believe will accompany me wherever I

\* Mrs. Lock was the daughter of the Duchess of Leinster by her second husband, Mr. Ogilvie.

may go, & last while I have life ; but from *no one* else in the world will I endure to be slighted without casting them away from my warm heart.

'Tell me then whether you are still inclined to receive me, & if I may bring my nurse with me ; she will sleep with me and (*sic*) but I can do without her if inconvenient to you. My doctors will not lose sight of me for a day or two, but they think I may be better to-morrow. They all advise change of air ; I have myself no hopes from it, but *you* may, perhaps, do more for me. Ever y<sup>r</sup> affectionate,' &c.

951. A. L. S. from Lady Hamilton to (the Duke of Queensberry).

Dated Richmond, September 4th, 1808. 4 pages 4to. [P.]

'My dear Lord & friend, may I hope that you will read this, for you are the only hope I have in this world to assist and protect me, in this moment of unhappiness and distress. To you, therefore, I appeal. I do not wish to have more than what I have. I can live on that at Richmond, only that I may live free from fear—that every debt may be paid. I think, and hope, £15,000 will do for every thing. For my sake, for Nelson's sake, for the good I have done my country, purchase it ;\* take it, only giving me the portraits of Sir William, Nelson, and the Queen. All the rest shall go. I shall be free and at liberty. I can live at Richmond on what I have ; you will be doing a deed that will make me happy, for lawyers will only involve me every day more and more—debts will increase new debts. You will save me by this act of kindness. The title deeds are all good and ready to deliver up, and I wish not for more than what will pay my debts. I beseech you, my dear Duke, to imagine that I only wish for you to do this, not to lose by it ; but I see that I am lost, and most miserable, if *you* do not help me. My mind is made up to live on what I have. If I could but be free from Merton—all paid, and only one hundred pounds in my pocket, you will live to see me blessing you, my mother blessing you, Horatia blessing you. If you would not wish to keep Merton, perhaps it will sell in the spring better—only let me pass my winter without the idea of a prison. 'Tis true my imprudence has brought it on me, and villany and ingratitude has helped to involve me, but the sin be on them. Do not let my enemies trample on me ; for God's sake then, dear Duke, good friend, think 'tis Nelson who asks you to befriend,' &c.

952. A. L. S. from Miss Anne Nelson Bolton (with a letter from Mrs. Bolton) to Lady Hamilton. Dated Cranwich, Sunday, September 11th, 1808. 3½ pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'I have but this moment received your kind letter, for which I am very much obliged. I was sorry to hear Jhion had been so ill, but was fearful when you left us he was not in a proper state to travel, and that he said he was better than he really was, for fear of being left behind. Hope the fine air of Richmond will do him good. Believe me, althow with my father, brother, and sistres, I felt very low-spirited for the first day or two, but hopes of soon seeing you soon again made me cheer up. We went to the play on Thursday. Mrs. and Miss Fisher desired me to say how grateful they felt for all your kindness to them. We were very much entertained. All the people at Swaffham were very much disappointed at not seeing you, particularly Miss Langford. The delicate Mrs. Edwards and all her family were there ; all the soldgers were there ; God save the King was sung, and after it the men got up and gave three cheers—quite grand for a *barn*. I can assure you I think poor Horatia would have been very much delighted. Pray give my love, and tell her not to forget her cousin Anne. Tom would not go to the play with *us*, the reason *I* cannot tell, perhaps she may. Give my best love to dear Mrs. Cadogan, and tell her we all wish to see her here with you soon. Who do you mean by Horatio Bolton ? You will, of course, say everything that is kind to Mrs. Greffer for me. Love to Sarah, hope to see her here also. Mama will write in this letter. I wish I had some news. All here send their love and

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\* Merton.



kisses to Horatia. Emma sends her love and a kiss ; hope she is better. I hope when you write again will tell me how you like your rooms at Richmond. Pray write soon, as we shall be anxious to know how you all are. Believe me,' &c.

(LETTER FROM MRS. BOLTON.)

'We began to be rather uneasy at not having a letter from you yesterday, lest you were unwell from travelling, but had no idea you were so unfortunate in your journey as to be three days in getting to town, but I hope dear Horatia is quite recovered. And now you have seen Mrs. Cadogan I hope your affairs look better than you thought when at a distance, and that your *spirits* of course will be better, & you will be able to come quite happy to fetch Anne. We are all dull enough now you have left us. I have never been out of the house since you left us. Mr. Steele was here the other day. He tells us L<sup>d</sup> Mountjoy\* is coming down with a great deal of company, amongst others, L<sup>d</sup> Hamilton, a son of the Marquis of Abercorn, & the report is he is to marry one of the Marquis's daughters.

'I have had a letter from Mrs. Matcham. She writes, supposing you are with us. She begs love, &c., &c., and hope you will not let the autumn slip without visiting them at Ashfold. Mr. Bolton sends his love, and desires I will tell you Mr. Matcham has complied with his *request*, you know *what*. Tom, I think, mends every day in his looks. He seems now pretty well, therefore, I hope you will find him much improved. All join in kindest love to your party. Believe me,' &c.

953. A. L. S. from Mrs. Bolton to the same. No date (September 15th, 1808). 3½ pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'I am happy to hear you are safe arrived at dear Merton (for dear it will ever be to me), & found Mrs. Cadogan well, and the improvements so much to your liking. You must have had a very fatigueing journey ; I am happy to find *you* were not ill yourself after such a night as you had. You give me the greatest pleasure when you say Anne behaved as you wished, it will be the way to make me love her. Mr. Wm. Bolton, Emily left us Saturday morning, and Mr. Bolton is gone to town, where he will arrive on Monday late ; he is gone to see after the prize-money in Mr. Davison's hands, & buy into the funds, and pay the legacies as far as the money will go. He will be at the Bedford Coffee House, Covent Garden, but will in the day be backwards and forwards in Clarges Street. He hopes to have finished his business in less than a fortnight, I hope he will, as the harvest-men will want him very much. We have nothing but rain and dull enough since you left us. We went to church yesterday, & Madam Partridge was there dressed in a color'd gown & a checked silk handkerchief, such as the maids, & looked no smarter. Wm. Girdlestone is in high spirits with the idea of his East Indian Expedition, which you are so kind as to interest yourself in. Will you tell me whether you think Blindy will be in town by the tenth of October or not? If we find Anne's letter we will send it to her. Emma talks much of you and Horatia ; she is now at my knee, and says love to you both, in which the whole party most cordially join & to Mrs. Cadogan. All who know her must love her, & dearly too. God protect you, my dear friend, & believe me at all times,' &c.

'P.S.—Susanna has sent by the waggon 8 boxes and 1 portfolio ; she will ride down to Woodford about the girl you mention, but I shall not keep Hannah longer than Michelmass ; I think, if you like, she would suit you better ; she is perfectly clean, and neat, & a quiet temper, & I dare say would be glad to come on y<sup>r</sup> terms ; in the meantime Susanna will take a look at the other girl. Let me know in your next which you like best.'

954. A. L. S. from Miss Anne Nelson Bolton and Mrs. Bolton to the same. Dated Cranwich, Sunday, September 25th, 1808. 3¼ pages 4to., with Superscription and Seal. [P.]

'Your kind letter was more acceptable than ever, as we feared from your long

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\* Charles John Gardiner, 2nd Viscount Mountjoy, afterwards 1st Earl of Blessington, 1783–1829, husband of the celebrated Lady Blessington.

silence you where ill ; we were sorry to hear of poor Jhion, but it is what we all said, I fear by this time he has breathed his last. Poor man, he certainly was attached to you, therefore you must regret him much. I fear you where in town when the dreadful fire broke out, we have been very anxious of hearing from you. Fear you where much frightened, if in the Strand you where not far off, and must have been in some danger. Indeed, I much wonder they were able to stop it so soon, it must have made a great noise. I hope Horatia is quite well. Tom sent her some birds, hope she has received them, they were of his own killing, I can assure her. I go out every day ; cannot walk much, my legs are so weak.

‘My father went to Suffolk last Sunday, and returned yesterday with my cousin Tom. Mrs. H. Partridge is here ; they had a dinner party yesterday ; Tom was invited, but did not go ; he has been and she (Mrs. P.) behaves very well to him. Emma is always talking of Horatia and you. Last Thursday was Eliza’s birthday ; we had great doings, we had a great deal of company, amongst the fashionables where Mrs. Fuller, Mrs. Geyex, Miss Fuller, & Miss G. ; the gentlemen where Tom, James, &c. &c. Plumb-pudding and plumb-cake ; a cold plumb-pudding we eat next day under a tree in the field ; some of them went in the carriage ; I went on *my* horse, who, wishing to have a roll on the grass, lay down with me. We go out almost every day ; we take a bottle of cider and harvest cake in a basket, and so set down under some tree. We have got plenty of ketchup for Mrs. Cadogan, to whom pray give my best love, hope we shall see her here. Pray has Mrs. Greaffer left you ? If not give my love to her, also to Sarah & Cecilia, hope they are well. You must excuse all blunders, as my horse is at the door. Hope to hear from you soon. Believe me,’ &c.

(LETTER FROM MRS. BOLTON.)

‘I have not permission to read the other side, therefore I scarcely know what to say. What a dreadful thing was the fire at Covent Garden, it quite upset me when I first heard of it ; the first idea was, where is Lady Hamilton ? sure she is not in the Strand. But upon talking it over we were in hopes you returned home on Monday evening, as you only mention’d calling on the *Duke* ; I hope it was *so*. I thank you for your news of Mr. Rose, but depend on it nothing will be done for *us*, that time is over. Horatia, I hope, will be well provided for, as to you must look to the *Duke* ; if he deceives us, how I shall *extreate* him, but I hope better things. Lady Bolton goes to Brancaster and Wells in a few days, or it will be too late in the season. Love to all your party from *all*, & believe me,’ &c.

955. A. L. S. from both the same to the same. Dated Cranwich, October 2nd, 1808.  $3\frac{1}{2}$  pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

‘I hope you will excuse my not writing before this, but have been very ill ever since I received your last letter, with a return of my old complaint, but am now much better. Sorry to say Susanna is ill in bed ; she has hurt her arm from a fall she had yesterday. Am much obliged for your good advice. We received papa’s new coat and waistcoat ; the latter we all thought very pretty, and, of course, of your chuseing. Susanna desires me to say I have been through nine hedges and a crooked apple tree, and that I have been complimented this morning on my good looks and *fine* complexion. Tom sent you two brace of birds on Thursday, and a hare for Mr. Salter ; hope they arrived safe, and proved good. I and Lady Bolton went to church ; found Mrs. P. reading to the Clerk only, or perhaps there might be a few old crows, or an owl or so. I think the sermon was something like God save the King, with variations. This morning we sent the carriage for Miss Langford ; she is not yet arrived, but I think I hear her tongue going at this distance. We have not been to Swafham since you left us but once (no great loss). Lady B. and Emma leave us for Brancaster on Wednesday next. Susan has been ill ever since you left us ; we had a letter from her mother, who feared she was going into a decline. Lady Bolton sends her love ; she has not heard from Sir Will<sup>m</sup> lately, and wishes to know if you have. You must really excuse all my nonsense ; but, indeed, there is not anything else. Hope poor Jhion



is better ; fear not. Give my love to all at Richmond ; they all here send their love. Accept the same from,' &c.

(LETTER FROM MRS. BOLTON.)

'It was my full intention to have written to you last week, but Anne had a bilious attack, but her medicine had much the same effect as when Mrs. Cadogan had her at Merton, so hope now will rub [along] for some *time*; she is now quite well. I was disappointed by your saying yourself and Mrs. Cadogan were not coming, but shall be very happy to see Miss S. Conner, and hope you will permit her to make as long a stay as you conveniently let her ; we will do all we can to make it comfortable for her, but very gay she must not expect. L<sup>d</sup> Mountjoy has been down for a few days ; he comes with a large party for a short time, but, I find, will not open his theatre till next spring ; therefore, if you will favour us with an early visit, you may, if you *chuse*, be present. I will write the middle of the week if you *chuse*, but I must say our chit-chat is scarcely worth the postage. Give my kind love to my dear Horatia ; tell her Anne shall bring her tea-things she left behind. God bless you, my dear friend, your affectionate,' &c.

956. A. L. S. from Mrs. and Mr. Matcham to the same. Dated 'Tuesday morning' (October 4th, 1808). 3 pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'I was delighted to receive a letter from you on Sunday, for we began to be quite uneasy at hearing nothing from you since your return from Cranwich. I hope you will find Richmond a pleasant residence. When you are settled, do come and see us, if it only for a few days ; the distance is no more than a morning's ride. George will pay his respects to you next week in his way to Cambridge, & then you can fix the time for our having the happiness of seeing you ; we shall have a great *deal to talk of*, and you will find our place improved. The change of air will do you good after your indisposition, which I trust has been nothing more than the bustle of moving. *If* the name is changed, it will be entirely by *your perseverance*. I confess I am anxious for it, as I know, could our dear angel look up, *he* would be gratified with *our* expressing the wish that after-ages may *know to whom my family belonged*. How much do we feel *his* loss in the most trifling things more and more every day ! God bless you, my dear Lady Hamilton, and with our united best wishes I remain, &c.

'P.S.—Kiss Horatia for me, and tell her cousins send her a thousand kisses, and hope to see her soon. We all beg to be remembered to Mrs. Cadogan, & hope to see her with you.

(LETTER FROM MR. MATCHAM.)

'An objection may arise to my and Tom Bolton assuming the name ; for my part, the only wish is that the children may bear it. The world will ascribe to me vanity instead of the persuasion that the change may be of service to my children should the Court clamour arise. (I wish) Mr. Rose would not think of us, but confine the name to the young ones, for Mrs. M. will not be call'd but by [my?] name, tho' I have endeavour'd to persuade her to be mention'd in the permission to the children ; to them it may be of consequence. Let us see you all soon. I am,' &c.

'P.S.—Miss Hay is going, the beginning of Nov', to Bath for a fortnight or three weeks. Do you know of any lady, a proficient in musick, who would wish to change the air of London for the country during that time ? We should be glad to entertain and to pay her for instructing our girls—especially if a good singer.'

957. A. L. S. from Mrs. Bolton and Miss Anne N. Bolton to the same. Dated Cranwich, October 8th, 1808. 3½ pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'I was made very happy yesterday by receiving your letter. I began to think you had forgot old correspondents, but Anne told me you had promised *her*.

What a rascal and a fool Olliver is for quarreling with his best friend, for he may be assured, if it ever was in our power to serve him, it would be done, to take him off your shoulders. I am vexed you are so fretted with his nonsense when you have so many more serious concerns; but cheer up (after a storm comes a calm) says the old *proverb*, & that it may soon be verified to you is my sincere prayer. Oh, that *old Duke*! How soon he might make all matters easy. I hear by the Yongs that *the* Countess has been very ill indeed, with a complaint in her bowells, but is better now; they are at *Broadstairs* for her health; Eliza Yonge is to stay the winter with them. Mr. Bolton, who was at Lynn the other day, heard that the Earl has declared that he will have a son and heir; and another piece of news which will surprize you: that *the* Viscountess is going to be married to a Lynn gentleman—one of the merchants there—but I do not credit it; she would never lower her dignity to marry a tradesman. What think you? It may be that she is courting their favour for her son to marry their daughters, with a large fortune to be given for the honour of her connection. Mr. Girdlestone is likely to get out to India, when we will call upon your Ladyship for the kind offer you made of giving him letters to Lord Minto, & any other you can procure, as the more the young man is known the better chance he has. Tom is quite well; he lives in the air. Mr. Partridge is very civil to him whenever he likes to go shooting with him. He begs his love to you and your circle, as do we all. Had Mr. Salter a hare Tom sent? Tell Mrs. Cadogan I have half-a-dozen bottles of ketchup for her. God bless you, my dear friend; keep up your spirits says your affectionate, &c.

‘P.S.—Miss Langford sends respects.’

(LETTER FROM MISS ANNE N. BOLTON.)

‘I would not let a letter pass without adding a line; indeed, it must be one, for in this place there is nothing to say. I was sorry, though not surprized, at hearing of the behaviour of Mr. Oliver; I fear it must hurt Mrs. Cadogan very much. To-morrow we loose almost all our party—Lady Bolton, Miss Langford, Tom, and (Susanna); they did not before, as Susanna’s health was so very bad—she could not sleep for three nights, but she is now much better. You never mentioned in your last how Jhion was; hope he is better, for God knows you have trouble enough without losing him. I think you are right to give those men a good drubbing, but they will not mind a woman. Oh, how I wish I was a man; how I would make them dance! Love to all the party, and believe me,’ &c.

958. A. L. S. from Mrs. Bolton to the same. Dated ‘Thursday morning’ (October 14th, 1808.) 3 pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

‘I should have written to you yesterday, but we were afraid of alarming you, as I know you feel for us, as we do for what concerns *you*. Tom has been ill a week with an intermittent fever, which is very prevalent in this neighbourhood; but, by the help of the bark, he was certainly getting better till yesterday; as he was going to rise his nose bled in such violent manner as to frighten us. Mr. Steele came, and said it was common in the complaint. They tell me he bled near a pint, which has made him very low indeed, but he has had a good night, and is certainly better this morning. He can sit up, and talks of taking a turn or two before the *door*.

‘Then, to complete the misery, poor Anne is very ill; she has now a blister on her side, and Mr. Steel has altered her medicines, & we will give them a trial. If they do not succeed, he says she must have other advice; he seems to think something *must be done* for her. Mr. Bolton is more alarmed about her, as she is certain she is in a bad way; but I hope as she is young, and nothing the matter with her lungs, she will do very well. She has been growing weaker every day, but I did not wish to tell you, as I was in hopes she would soon be better, & now I think she will. We have sent to ask Mrs. Girdlestone to come & help nurse, but my son, I hope, will be nearly well, if he has no return.

‘Anne says she will write a line to my Lady, or she will be alarmed for me. This she said last night, but she has been very restless all night. She begs her



love, and she will write on Sunday, I hope, a better account of herself. Tell Mrs. Cadogan I will take care of *her children*.

'Lady Bolton has left us, and poor Susanna has but one arm, but she does as much with that as most people do with *two*. Now, send us something good of yourself, & that will help to cheer us, for, believe me, we look to your welfare as our own. Believe me,' &c.

959. A. Doc. S. 'Emma Hamilton' (at the bottom of every page).

Dated Richmond, October 16th, 1808. 10½ pages folio.

'This I declare to be my last Will and Testament, October the 16th, 1808, Richmond.

'If I can be buried in St. Paul's, I should be very happy to be near the glorious Nelson, whom I loved and admired, and as once Sir William, Nelson, and myself had agreed we should all be buried near each other. If the King had [not] granted him a public funeral, this would have been, that three persons who were so much attached to each other from virtue and friendship should have been laid in one grave when they quitted this ill-natured slanderous world. But 'tis past, and in heaven I hope we shall meet. If I am not permitted to be buried in St. Paul's, let me be put where I shall be near my dear mother, when she is called from this ungrateful world. But I hope she will live, and be a mother to Nelson's child, Horatia. I beg that Merton may be sold, and all debts paid; and, whatever money shall be left after all debts are paid, I give to my dear mother, and after her death to my dear Horatia Nelson. I also give all that I am possessed of in this world to my dear mother, Mary Doggin, or Cadogan, for her use, and, after her death, to Horatia Nelson. I give them all my ready money, plate, linen, pictures, wearing apparel, household furniture, trinkets, wine, in short, everything I have in this world to my mother during her life, and after her death to my dearest Horatia Nelson. I hope Mr. George Rose will be my executor, and take care of my dear mother and Horatia, and if he should not be living, I hope his eldest son will do me this last favour to see justice done to Nelson's daughter, and also I beg His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, as he dearly loved Nelson, that His Royal Highness will protect his child, and be kind to her; for this I beg of him, for there is no one that I so highly regard as His Royal Highness. Also my good friend the Duke of Queensbury, I beg of him, as Nelson beseeched him to be kind to me, so I commend my dear mother and Horatia to his kind heart. I have done my King and country some service, but as they were ungrateful enough to neglect the request of the virtuous Nelson in providing for me, I do not expect they will do anything for his child; but, if there should be any administration in at my death who have hearts and feelings, I beg they will provide for Horatia Nelson, the child who would have had a father if he had not gone forth to fight his country's battles, therefore she has a claim on them. I declare before God, and as I hope to see Nelson in heaven, that Ann Connor, who goes by the name of Carew, and tells many falsehoods that she is my daughter, but from what motive I know not, I declare that she is the eldest daughter of my mother's sister, Sarah Connor, and that I have the mother and six children to keep, all of them, except two, having turned out bad. I therefore beg of my mother to be kind to the two good ones, Sarah and Cecilia. This family having by their extravagance almost ruined me, I have nothing to leave them, and I pray to God to turn Ann Connor, *alias* Carew's, heart. I forgive her, but as there is a madness in the Connor family, I hope it is only the effect of this disorder that may have induced this bad young woman to have persecuted me by her slander and falsehood. I give all my papers, books, lace, and, indeed, everything to my dear mother and Horatia Nelson. This I declare to be my last Will and Testament, and to do away with all other wills.'

960. A. L. S. from Miss Anne N. Bolton and Lady Bolton to Lady Hamilton. Dated Cranwich, November 22nd, 1808. 3 pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'I am much disappointed at not hearing from you, fear you are not well.

Last Thursday we went to the ball, my brothers George and Henry came from Cambridge to meet us there, so we had plenty of beaux. There were a great many people. Mr. and Mrs. Mott; I think her a pretty woman. She did not dance, so I suppose she is with child. The Youngs were dressed in pink satin; indeed nothing but satins were worn, but I think Lady B. was the handsomest, it was trimmed with silver. Eliza's dress was very much admired. We got home at about six o'clock; my mother and the invalids were up. The young men came home with us, and set off the same day after dinner. We have had Mr. & Mrs. Moris Suckling staying with us this last three days. I like her very much; indeed, she gave me a very kind invitation to go and stay with her. They left us this morning. I am happy to say Bessie and Susanna are quite recovered. I hope you will excuse my not ending the last letter I wrote, but my father and Tom came in such a hurry that I asked Eliza to direct it and seal it. I was happy to hear from my father you were well when he saw you; hope to hear you are so still.

'Sorry to hear Mrs. Greaser is so ill. I think she must think me very remiss in not mentioning her in my letters, but really till my father said the other day she was not well, I was quite surprised, as I thought she was gone abroad. I hope you will now give me love, and tell her how sorry I am she is so unwell. Best love to Mrs. Cadogan, Horatia, and the rest of your family. Hope you will write very soon. Emma sends her love to H. Believe me,' &c.

(LETTER FROM LADY BOLTON.)

'I have requested Anne to leave me room to write a few lines to you, as I thought you would like to hear how she looked at the ball. I assure you, tho' she was far from well, I thought her one of the handsomest women in the room. She danced very little indeed, as Mr. Steele wished her not to exert herself too much, and, even as it was, she was so much fatigued that she has not quite recovered yet. She is going out on her donkey to-day; it is charming weather for the time of year. I am glad to find from my father you are tolerable well at this time. Emma is quite well; sends a thousand kisses to cousin Horatia. You must excuse my writing but these few lines, as I have a bad head-ache; to say the truth, I have not yet recovered the fatigue of the ball; you know I am soon tired. All unite in love, dear Lady H. Yours,' &c.

961. Doc. Dated November 25th, 1808. 2½ pages folic. [P.]

'At a meeting of the friends of Lady Hamilton, held at the house of Sir John Perring, Bart., the 25th Nov<sup>r</sup>, 1808.

Present :

Sir John Perring.	Mr. McClure.	Mr. Nichol.
Mr. Davison.	Mr. Goldsmid.	Mr. Wilson.
Mr. Moore.	Sir Robert Barclay.	Mr. Lavie.
Mr. Gooch.		

Mr. Dawson attending as Sol<sup>r</sup> to Lady Hamilton.

'READ. A letter from Lady Hamilton addressed to the gentlemen attending the Meeting.

'READ. A list of debts delivered in by Mr. Dawson as obtained by advertisement, also a list of additional debts delivered in by Lady Hamilton herself, the whole debt estimated at 8000*l*, exclusive of 10,000*l*. required to pay off annuities.

'Upon consideration of the property possessed by Lady Hamilton the same was ascertained as follows :—

Books	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£1,500
Wine	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,000
Statues, Vases, China, Pictures, and other articles of fancy	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,500
Furniture and Fixtures	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,500
House & 32 Acres	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7,500
40 Acres	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,500

Taken at a very low rate.

£17,500

'The above property being independent of her annuities under the wills of Sir William Hamilton and Lord Nelson, and her claim on Government.



'RESOLVED. That an assignment of the whole of Lady Hamilton's property be taken, and that the same be made to :—

Sir John Perring, Bart.		Richard Wilson, Esq.
Alexander Davison, Esq.		and
Abraham Goldsmid, Esq.		Germain Lavie, Esq.

as Trustees for Sale, &c.

'That in order to afford an immediate relief the following sums be advanced by

Alex <sup>r</sup> Davison	...	...	...	...	One thousand pounds.
Ab <sup>m</sup> Goldsmid	...	...	...	...	One thousand pounds.
John Gooch	...	...	...	...	Five hundred pounds.
Rich <sup>d</sup> Wilson	...	...	...	...	Five hundred pounds.
Sir Robert Barclay	...	...	...	...	Five hundred pounds.
John Perring	...	...	...	...	Two hundred pounds.

to be secured by the said Trust with interest.

'That the money collected by the above advances be applied in payment of all incumbrances absolutely necessary to be immediately discharged.

'That all the creditors be applied to to execute the Debt of Trust, and to agree to accept a payment out of the Trust Estate.

'That pending the Trust Lady Hamilton be allowed to receive her annuities, but in case of deficiency the same shall be applied in liquidating the balance.

'That the Trustees be a Committee to follow up the claim on Government, in which all the friends of Lady Hamilton be requested to co-operate.

'That the Trustees do go to market in the most advantageous mode possible, so as not to injure the property by a premature sale.

'Signed. Robert Barclay.		Geo. Gooch.
Alex <sup>r</sup> Davison.		A. Macklew.
F. Moore.		George Nicol.
Ab <sup>m</sup> Goldsmid.		Rich <sup>d</sup> Wilson.
Germain Lavie.		John Perring.'

962. A. L. S. from Mrs. Matcham to Lady Hamilton. Dated December 31st, 1808. 3 pages 4to., with Superscription.

'We are very anxious to get a line from you to know how you all are after the very severe weather we have had ; it is so long since we heard from you that I think something must be wrong. You will be glad to hear that George is returned from Cambridge quite well, and delighted with his college life, though we have the pleasure of seeing him happy to return to our quiet fireside. I had a letter from Lady Charlotte a few days since ; she is likewise fearful you are unwell, as she wrote to you a month since to have rec<sup>d</sup> no answer. Do let us know how your affairs are going on, we hope to your satisfaction. If *our* good wishes could be of any use, God knows you have them to the fullest extent. We long much to see you ; at present our little habitation is quite full. We have a cousin of Mr. M.'s staying with us, & her 3 children, an unfortunate widow, left with a very scanty income. She will stay about a month longer, when we hope you will make it convenient to come, if only for a day or two. Col. and Mrs. Coehoorn have been here for two days ; he is delighted with our little farm. They intended going to call on you at Richmond to thank you for your great kindness to their young midshipman, who I hope will turn out a good young man, & be an ornament to his profession. I find *the Earl* does not come to London before the first week in Febry. I fancy they find it a hard matter to please him, either in town or country. Poor Capt. Bowen is dead ; he was the Earl's constant companion. God knows, we see the falacy of titles and riches, for he was much more respected as a country *parson* & a *happier* man than he is at present. We have received a letter from Doctor Lawrence, who begs to recommend (if you should not be engaged with a medical gentleman) Messrs. Steight & Hunter as men of great respectability & in very extensive practice. We all join in love & every kind wish to you all, & may you enjoy many happy years. Believe me,' &c.

'P.S.—We have all got colds and sore throats ; I hope you will escape. Pray tell Horatia, with all our loves, we long to see her.'

963. A. L. S. 'A. B.' from Miss Anne N. Bolton to the same.

Dated Cranwich, February 14th, 1809. 2½ pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'I should have written to you before, but did not find myself quite well enough; am now nearly recovered. I am sorry to say my poor mother is still very low and weak, but am in hopes she will in time get over it; she is certainly better to-day than she has been this last week. We have had quite a sick house since you left us—a good thing for the doctor, for I am certain I have not passed a day without taking something out of his shop. I have just parted with Mrs. Pierson, my uncle, and Caroline; they came this morning to breakfast, on their way to Brancaster. Caroline is grown very much *indeed*; Mrs. P. said she should write to you soon, therefore did not send any message. I write to-day, as most of our party are gone to Swaffham, but the letter cannot go till to-morrow. I was sorry to hear of the death of poor Jhion, and yet it was a happy release for *him*. My mother will write to you if she is well enough. I wonder what Miss Langford thinks of my cousin Robin? I hear from Mrs. M. that Mrs. Rofe is a very good-looking woman. She met them arm in arm at Colchester; he introduced her. Pray write me word how you liked Lady Rushe's Ball. I should [have] liked to have been there, if I was *well*. You must excuse all my blunders, not being well; I feel rather tired. I hope my next will be more legible. Pray give my love to Mrs. Cadogan, and tell her I often think of her goodness to me. I think she would have been a little bit frightened if she had seen me with the fever, so bad I had it last week. It was the worst sort; it made me very low. The first time they got me out of bed I nearly fainted. My poor sisters sat up with me four nights. If it had not been for their good nursing, I think I should not have been alive now. Love to Horatia, Sarah, and Cecilia. My mother sends her kind love; she will write to you next week, as she does not find herself well enough now. Believe me,' &c.

'Pray write soon.

'P.S.—Emma sends her love to Horatia; she was writing to her yesterday. Pray, did you receive a turkey? Say in your next. Should thank you to send Mrs. Nelson's direction, as my mother wishes to send her a turkey.'

964. A. L. S. from the same to the same. Dated Cranwich, April 16th (1809). 2 pages 4to. [P.]

'I fear you have not received my last; perhaps I did not direct it wright. Shall send this to Richmond, in hopes of finding you returned and of receiving an answer. My mother & father, with my aunt, have [been], and are still, in Suffolk, in hopes that change of air may do my mother good. We had a letter from my aunt on Fryday, she said my mother was better; they return next Thursday. Susanna, Lady Bolton, and myself, have been alone this last three weeks; we have been very busy makeing orange wine, and have the raisons now in the house to make raison wine, for my father liked the currant that Susanna made so much that he is determined to have nothing but made wines; hope you will come and give your opinion of them. I propose having a board put up before the house, "fine wines made here," (N.B. the good O.C.); hope you will patronize us. Hope Horatia is quite well; was in hopes of hearing from her. Suppose she is grown so much that I should hardly know her; pray give my love and a kiss. Shall be happy to hear you and dear Mrs. Cadogan continue well. Tell her I have heard her dear Tom is well; he has been staying at Alecham this last vacation.

'Fear you will find this very stupid, but have not seen or heard from any body but my aunt. I keep scratching my poor head in hopes of getting something to say, but all in vain. I suppose you heard of the prize Sir Will<sup>m</sup> got, laden with cotton, coffee, and sugar. We are in hopes the spell is broke. Pray, my dear Lady, write as soon as you receive this, as I am quite anxious to hear you and all your party are well.

'I know what it is has made me so very stupid. You must be told (for I do



not think you know) that us country folks always lay in bed much later on a Sunday than on any other day, so we thought we would do the thing gently, and we got up at halfe past (nay, do not be frightened, dear Lady), it was only eleven; we sat down to redishes and bread and butter at twelve. You will be surprized to hear what a great work-woman I am, two urn rugs, patchwork without end, &c.

'Emma sends her love to Horatia and a hundred kisses; she is now standing by me. Susanna, Lady B., and myselfe, unite in best love to you and all your family. Pray do not forget to write to your,' &c.

965. A. L. S. from Mrs. Bolton to the same. Dated Cranwich, April 23rd (1809). 2 $\frac{3}{4}$  pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'Your letter yesterday gave us the greatest pleasure and satisfaction to find you were quite well & amusing yourself. I have been a little excursion to Stonham, Akenham, & Colchester, as Mr. Steele thought I should be better if I would try to change the air; I am, I think, rather stronger. When I got home & found no letter from you, I was much surprized—I confess not much alarmed, as I depended on Mrs. Cadogan's writing—but Anne, who depended on my hearing from you, was much alarmed, as you will find by her letter to your good mother.

'I am glad to hear a *Goldsmid* has purchased Merton rather than any stranger. You, I hope, will feel more easy now it is gone. Perhaps you & I may one day have a *melancholy pleasure* in tracing former times in those walks. Anne talks of returning with Mrs. Bolton to Brancaster, which is the first time she has been out of Cranwich, except for one ball, & that was much against her inclination. Indeed, she was very ill there. Dear Horatia, I am glad you have got such an accomplished governess for her. I am sure she will improve much under such instructors as she has; but do not let your generous feelings for her induce you to do too much for her to your own injury, for remember your life and welfare is everything to *her*. I should like to see Richmond. I hope another year I shall be better both in health & wealth, & then I shall be so happy to make you & Mrs. Matcham a visit. My Tom was in Suffolk for a few days, & has been return'd to Cambridge this fortnight. I am glad he has made his visit; he has not been there these four years, & I found they thought themselves slighted. I should not like him if I thought he should show disrespect to any of his old *friends*. He says you never write to him; he has written to you several times. We all unite in kind regards to you & your household. Believe me,' &c.

966. A. L. S. from Mrs. Matcham to the same. Dated May 15th (1809). 1 $\frac{1}{2}$  pages 4to., with Superscription and Seal. [P.]

'George wrote to me that he had the pleasure of seeing you in town, & that you promised him to come down to us for a few days. We have been expecting the pleasure of hearing from you every day. The country now is very beautiful, & I hope you will very shortly perform your promise, as we long much to see you and dear Horatia. We have had Mr. Haslewood here for a few days. He is so delighted with the country, that he has purchased some land near us, & intends to hire a house in the neighbourhood for his family to come to occasionally. There is no house on his own grounds, but it is a beautiful place if he should wish to build, but that is an expensive & troublesome undertaking. We heard from George last week; thank God, he was very well. We hope to see him in about a fortnight. He says Tom is very well and grown quite stout. With our kind wishes to Mrs. Cadogan, & affect<sup>te</sup> love to dear Horatia, & a kiss from us all, believe me,' &c.

967. A. L. S. from Mrs. Bolton to the same. Dated Cranwich, 'Monday morning' (May 15th, 1809). 3 pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'Before this you have seen or heard of Mr. Bolton, who is just gone to town; whenever you wish to see him give him a line at the Bedford. Your letter arrived when I was at Saham making the wedding visit—the first time I have been able

to go. Madame is in a family way—rather too late for a bride visit, you will say. He has made a very good choice, she suits him in point of age, and in every respect makes a good clergyman's wife; she was an exemplary daughter, & that is a good prospect for him. When I return'd I found Mrs. W<sup>m</sup> Bolton here. Anne went to Brancaster last Saturday. If Mr. Bolton permits, we are all going for a week, as I am recommended to make short excursions. But I shall go nowhere, but a few lines from you to say you are coming will bring me back with much pleasure to receive *you*. What do you think of *our* friends the Ministers? this *reform*, I fear, will be a bad thing for us, they will be afraid to bring forward any more pensions. I was glad to hear you mention the old Duke again, I thought he was in such a state [as to be unable to] recognise his old friends. I hope you will be in his favour whenever he departs this life, for I dare say the will is altered every week.

'Mr. & Mrs. Tayler are in this neighbourhood, & on the 29th they will come to me for a day or two. Lady Bolton has had a letter from S<sup>r</sup> W<sup>m</sup> yesterday; he has sailed again on a cruze. I hope he will pick up a little something—it is time now to begin. God bless you, my dear Lady. Your,' &c.

968. A. L. S. from Miss Anne N. Bolton (with A. L. S. attached from Mrs. Pierson) to the same. Dated Brancaster, May 25th, 1809. 3¼ pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'I should certainly have written to you before, but really could not find time, as you will, I hope, allow when you hear that all my sisters are here and likewise my mother, so you may suppose we are very gay, particularly as this is Brancaster races; on Thursday, my uncle was so kind as to give us a little dance, and invited the Misses & Mrs. Sharps and one or two more beaux; we danced till two o'clock. Of course we are all pretty well knocked up.

'My mother set off for Wells this morning with Susanna and Emma; they stay one night with my aunt Girdlestone, who is, I am happy to say, better than I expected to find her. You, perhaps, would wish to know how I heard it; I did not hear it, for I saw her last Fryday—Lady Bolton, Eliza, and myself rode to Wells and dined with her. I wrote to Sarah Connor the day before I left home to request her to do a little commission for me and Eliza; if you can spare her I should be much obliged, as I heard from Cecilia she was out, suppose she is with you. I beg she will not hurry herself, as any time before the Swafham races we are to be very gay as we are to have two balls then; pray tell Sarah to send us word what is worn by way of cloaks. You, I fear, think this very stupid and badly written, but the maid has just been in to say the post is waiting for me. Mrs. Pierson desires her love; she meant to have written in this, but will not have time. Give my best love to all your party; the whole of ours join with me in best love to you. Believe me,' &c.

'P.S.—I will write something more intelligible soon.'

(LETTER FROM MRS. PIERSON.)

'Anne has given you all the news and the post waits, yet I can not suffer this to go hence without saying I am hurt at not hearing from you. I wish to hear something too of Horatia; I suppose she is a compleat French woman by this time. Caroline sends her love to her. Mrs. Bolton is just gone to Wells for a day, she is much better than she has been for some time past; I wish I could say the same for my mother, who has been far from well for some time; we were in hopes the warm weather would have been of service to her, but neither that nor change of air have yet done much for her. I heard yesterday that Richard Woodthorp is appointed surgeon to the *Kent*, so he has waited for something good. I have only time to add that I hope you will soon find leisure to write to me. Ever yours,' &c.

969. A. L. S. from Mrs. Matcham to the same. Dated June 1st, 1809. 1½ pages 4to., with Superscription and Seal. [P.]

'I hope when everything is settled you will then come down to us. We shall



be happy to see Madom<sup>lle</sup> Roulanch & any part of your family; we beg Mrs. Cadogan will come with you. Be assur'd *we* shall be at all times delighted to *have you* here and accomodate you the best in our power. The country is now delightful, and I trust we shall soon see you. Mr. M. and the girls beg to join me in every affect<sup>o</sup> wish to you, & believe me to be, my dearest Lady H., ever,' &c.

'P.S.—Pray kiss Horatia for us; I hope she has not forgot her *aunt Matcham*.'

970. A. L. S. from Mrs. Bolton to the same. Dated Cranwich, 'Monday morning' (June 5th, 1809). 2 $\frac{3}{4}$  pages 4to., with Superscription.

'We came from Brancaster last night where I left Anne for a few weeks, unless we have the favour of your company—in that time, of course, she will come to receive you; that this may be the case we *all* hope. Eliza received the box with a couple of very pretty hats, which we think very cheap; am much obliged to you for taking the trouble of choosing them; when Tom visits Richmond he will pay the bill to Miss Sarah Conner. I am sorry Mr. Bolton did not see you when in town, as he wished much to do; but his brother's business was so urgent & much wanted at home, therefore had but little time to spare! could he have seen you would have fixed a time to visit you at Richmond when he was certain of your being at home. Of this be assured—*we* all *love* you. The Brancaster people are all in the same state as you left them. Poor Mrs. Bolton is in very indifferent health and looks sadly. As we pass'd through Swaffham Mrs. Wood enquired after you; I told her I hoped to see you this summer, she was much pleased. Swaffham races are the latter end of this month.

'I was afraid both for you and my son; the Ministers dare not bring anything forward this sitting of Parliament, but Mr. Percival has pledged himself to bring forward Tom's business at Xmas. What a stir has Mr. Wardle made in the nation; as to Lord Gambier, is detested in the country; all agree he has got dismiss'd the service a far better officer than himself.

'Give my kind regards to Mrs. Cadogan & dear Horatia. All unite in kindest love to you and your circle. Believe me,' &c.

971. A. L. S. from Signor Francesco Bianchi\* to the same. Dated June 16th, 1809. 1 page 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

I was married on the 15th, we were destined to be separated 15 days after. I thought much before taking this step, and did all I could to avoid it, but unfortunately it has happened. The past is over, it is not necessary to think anything more about it. I should be the vilest of men if I drew back and repented, and should deserve the contempt of all the world, and above all of my wife herself, if I were guilty of such a mean action. Remember, my lady, the last farewell my wife gave me, and then judge if a man of my character ought to return. In view of all this excuse me, my lady, if I cannot go to see you before your departure. I am the more firm in this fixed resolution because some one might try to move me, and I do not like to disoblige friends by refusing what they ask of me. I pray that I may keep your friendship, and that you will ever consider me to be your, &c.

972. A. L. S. from Mrs. Bolton to the same. Dated Cranwich, 'Monday, noon' (June 19th, 1809). 2 $\frac{1}{4}$  pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'I was in hopes of having a letter from you before this to say you had truly acquitted Tom of all ingratitude to you & Mrs. Cadogan; I should be very much

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\* Francesco Bianchi, 1752–1810, a dramatic musical composer of Italian birth, who settled in London, and was for some years connected with the King's Theatre. The last ten years of his life were occupied chiefly in teaching, Sir Henry Bishop being one of his pupils. He committed suicide at Hammersmith, where he resided. Most of the musical biographical dictionaries, including *Fétis*, say that he died at Bologna in 1811. A further reference to his death occurs in Letter No. 1005.

hurt if he had. Anne, who is still at Brancaster (but coming home in a few days), wrote to beg we would write him a scolding letter, for you & Mrs. Cadogan had *always* been kind to him (she knew not how he was situated). Lady Bolton & Emma are gone into Suffolk a visiting her friends, w<sup>h</sup> she has not done since she married. Who do you think is the gay lady of this village? No less than Miss Clarke & the gallant Mr. Ellinor, your Mary's father. Biddy is very unconcerned about it; she says others have done so before, & more than half the parish are *so*. So much for village scandal. She being an *acquaintance* of yours, I could not refrain from telling you. Poor Aunt Goulty has buried her son, a very great loss to her in every respect. He has left a large family, but his wife is a clever woman, & fully able to carry on the *business*. A letter from Ashfold last week; all well. You know Hazlewood has purchased Sheffield Park, a most beautiful situation. Horatia recollects, I dare say, the ruins she walked to with her cousins. He has appointed Mr. Matcham his steward and overlooker. What do you think *of that?* Tom has been to call on Mr. Rose, & he has given him an official letter for his father to say Mr. Percival has pledged himself for £500 pr. ann. to begin at Xmas. Remember us most affectionately to dear Horatia & Mrs. Cadogan, & believe me,' &c.

'P.S.—You see my pen will not write a word more.'

973. A. L. S. from Lord Northwick\* to the same. Dated Harrow-on-the-Hill, June 28th, 1809. 3½ pages 4to. [P.]

'I am delighted with your letter this momt. recd., & look forward with impatience for the 6th of July, when I shall have the pleasure of seeing you at Harrow. Your proposal of inviting Mrs. Bianchi is most excellent, & you have indeed anticipated my wishes, tho' I should not have ventured to have proposed it, as it might be construed into an intention of giving a Fête, which I hope your Ladyship will have the goodness to explain to Mrs. Bianchi will not be the case, as, with very few exceptions, our little party will be confin'd to a few of our old Neapolitan friends. The Duke of Sussex has very condescendingly promis'd to join us, with, I hope, Lord Douglas. I told H.R.H. that I had written to you, which seem'd to give him great pleasure.

'Your amiable and most interesting *élève* (if report says true) repays your care and solicitude by her improvem<sup>ts</sup> in every grace, in every charm—& could it be otherwise with such inimitable perfection before her? I am most anxious to see the progress she has made, & am much gratified by your Ladyship's acquiescence in my wishes by allowing Horatia to accompany you.

'I hope it will not be too great an effort to be here by *one o'clock* in time for the speeches, as I am sure your presence w<sup>d</sup> be the greatest possible incitem<sup>t</sup> to our juvenile orators to use their utmost endeavours to be deserving of your commendation.

'I am, with every sentiment of regard,' &c.

974. A. L. S. from the Rev. C. Este to the same. No date (1809?). 1½ pages 8vo. [P.]

'I hope to have the pleasure of a day or two with you next week. Should any cross accident thwart me I will write on Tuesday, & then send what you wish as to a letter, tho' surely we had better talk together before you send the letter, and therefore I shall the rather strive to be with you. I have but two minutes to say thus much, and in those two minutes I am so far in the little luck of getting a cover. Most affectionately adieu, dear Lady Hamilton, with kind wishes to all, your obliged,' &c.

975. A. L. S. from Miss Anne N. Bolton to the same. No date (July 3rd, 1809). 1 page 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'I have been expecting to hear from you, as you said in Mrs. Pierson's that

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\* John Rushout, 2nd Baron Northwick, 1770–1859, well known for his liberal patronage of the fine arts.



you should write to me directly ; fear you have forgot that you owe me one. I have not much news, as Susanna has told all the Swafham, and you know that is where we get all ours. My Aunt & Anne Girdlestone are here, two cousins from Suffolk. I am sorry to say my father is still very unwell. I left Brancaster last Sunday ; they were all well, except my aunt, and she, I am sorry to say, is much the same as when I last wrote. This letter I fear you will find stupid, but I thought it would be better than none. Give my love Mrs. Cadogan ; hope she continues well. Kiss Horatia for me ; tell her I hope she will not forget yours,' &c.

'P.S.—Love to Sarah and Cecilia.'

976. A. L. S. from Lord Mansfield to the same. Dated Great Cumberland Street, July 8th, 1809. 3 pages 4to. [P.]

'Mr. Greville and myself feel much obliged by your kind indulgence as to the payment of the quarter of your jointure which became due the 29th of last month. You have an undoubted right to have this payment made regularly according to Sir William Hamilton's will, and the money is ready from the rents of the estate ; but as these rents from Lady Day last to Michaelmas will form a part of the estate of the late Mr. Greville, they must form a part of his personal property, and therefore come under the *jurisdiction* of the *administrator*, and the cause in the Prerogative Court is still pending, but we hope will now soon come to a decision as to who is to be the administrator. This seems a long history, but I thought it necessary fully to explain how any delay could occur as to the regular payment of your jointure this quarter. If you are in want of the money before Michaelmas, when Davis (the steward) will come up to pay in the rents, perhaps under the circumstances and the security of Sir William Hamilton's will, perhaps Messrs. Coutts would advance you one quarter, or if you can wait you will receive two at Michaelmas. You may be *quite sure* after that quarter that your payments will be *punctually exact*, and I am very sorry that the unexpected difficulties about the administration should have occasioned this inconvenience to you. Pray let me hear from you as soon as you can about this, & be so good as to inform me what is the form of receipt you give on receiving payment, & remember you must not be put to any difficulty, & in some way or other the money must be paid if you are in want of it. Of course, we are still detained in town, and do not know how much longer we may have to stay. I am,' &c.

977. A. L. S. from Miss Anne N. Bolton to the same. Dated Cranwich, July 26th (1809). 2¼ pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'My mother and myself have been anxiously expecting to hear from you this last month ; fear you are not well, or have quite forgot your friends at Cranwich ; hope you will favour either her or me with a line. I had the pleasure of hearing from Tom that you were well when he left you, and you told him that you should write to me, therefore I did not write to you as I otherways should have done, and, as you well know, we have not much news here, nearly that the hen sat, the cow calfed, or that the *crops* are pretty good, and, lastly, we are all as well as can be expected this hot weather. I thought you who are in the world, and have so much, and know so well how to fill a letter, would have written *two* to my *one* (which is not worth the postage). I think you have had enough of this.

'I suppose you have seen in the paper that S<sup>r</sup> Wil<sup>m</sup> has taken another prize ; we have seen it this week past, but have not heard anything from him, therefore fear it is only rumour ; have you heard anything ? if you have, would thank you to mention it, as we are anxious to hear. Lady Bolton is still in Suffolk. Miss Anne Framington is here ; Mrs. Day brought her a fortnight ago. My aunt and Anne Girdlestone are still here. My father, I am sorry to say, is not yet well, he is indeed very weak and low ; I fear this hot weather does not agree with him, as he is now come to lay down. When you see my letters you do not expect to be entertained by them ; if you do, you are wofully disappointed. I am now

sitting in Tom's room opposite two of your pictures which he has had nailed up in his room.

'I hear from him that Horatia is very much improved ; pray, my dear lady, is it part of her education to forget me ? I was in hopes she would have written to me ; give my love and tell her so. Hope Mrs. Cadogan is well, I know this is the weather she likes. Sarah and Cecilia are also quite well, I hope ; my love to them all. My mother sends her love to you and begs you will write by return of post if it is nearly to say that you and all your family are well. Believe me,' &c.

978. A. L. S. from the same to the same. Dated Cranwich, August 22nd, 1809, with A. L. S. attached from Mrs. Bolton to the same.  $3\frac{1}{2}$  pages 4to., with Superscription.

'I hope you will allow that I am much better than you are in answering letters ; believe me, I do not mean in the style but in the quickness. Lady Bolton I am happy to say, is better ; she has not had any return of her complaint, but she is still *very* weak, so much so that she cannot yet return home. My father and Susanna went into Suffolk to fetch her, as we have more faith in Mr. Steele than in the person she has now to attend her, for, by all accounts, he knows no more about her disorder than I do. I think we shall see them the latter end of this week. I was *extremely* sorry to hear poor Horatia has been so unwell. My mother sends her love to you and hopes you will come into Norfolk as you promised, as perhaps the change of air may be good for Horatia, which I know will be a very great inducement for you. My mother talked of writing if I left room for her.

'We have had a very great disappointment this morning, which was a letter from Sir Will<sup>m</sup> (who is now at Plymouth), in which he told us that he could not come into Norfolk this time, for as he has struck good luck he is impatient to be out again. I suppose you have seen that his second prize is arrived safe ; I do not know which it is, hope it is something good. You have indeed, my dear lady, been most unlucky with your maids, hope you will be more successful the next. Our cook is going to be married ; Hannah is going to leave us, for it is too large a family for her, she would have liked to have stayed ; cook said my mother did not think her good enough, so you see you are not singular in having to change often. I have heard you say you wish you could get a modest, ignorant country girl ; my mother has one who answers to that description exactly—she is even allowed to tuck Tom up of a night ; she is not like a feather-bed tied in the middle, but a pillow. I think, my Lady H., you ought to write two letters to my one ; you have not only more to say, but yours are so very short in comparison with mine. Pray give my best love and kisses to dear Horatia ; tell her Emma is quite well, and I am sure will be very much pleased when she hears she is coming to see her (I hope soon). Best love to dear Mrs. Cadogan ; we shall be very glad to see her with the rest of the family. Remember me to Sarah and Miss Connor. Hope you will write soon and tell us Horatia is quite well, and what has been the matter with her. Believe me,' &c.

(LETTER FROM MRS. BOLTON.)

'How sorry I am for our dear Horatia. I can easily imagine your feelings on the occasion ; give my kind love to her, I shall be most happy to see her and you too before the summer leaves. I hope you will put your *threat* in execution of being in Norfolk. Poor Kate has been seriously ill, and is now so weak as not to set up more than 2 hours a time ; but hope soon to get her under Mr. Steele's care. Sr W<sup>m</sup> is at Plymouth, brought in two prizes. Yours,' &c.

979. A. L. S. from Mrs. Graefer to the same. Dated Bronté, August 27th, 1809.  $2\frac{1}{8}$  pages folio.

'I hope long before this reaches you that you have received a packet of letters which I sent to the care of Mr. Broadbent, begging of him that he contriv'd that they reached your hands safe : but, for fear of accident, I enclose you a copy of



what I sent you, which is the exact state of the Dutchy of Bronté. I hope—sincerely hope—that our plan may succeed; a great deal depends on you. Forcella has received, since last Sep<sup>r</sup>, above 7000 ounces, & has wrote to D. G. to send him 5000 ounces more. D.G. wrote to Mr. Gibb to let him know of it; I believe it will cause some disturbance between them, & not without reason, for the Cav<sup>re</sup> certainly is not very honest. As to my writing to him for your ass, it is now so many years ago that he would be capable of denying it, without you sent a letter by me to deliver to him. It wou'd at present be very acceptable to me, as the doctors as ordered me viper broth & *to straddle your ass* (if I cou'd get it) every morning. I am afraid I am on my last leggs; but, my d<sup>r</sup> Lady Hamilton, we must all die of some disorder, & if this is to be my death, I must resign myself to the will of the Almighty without repining. But let me beg it as a favour, you will not acquaint any-one that I am so ill, particularly my uncle, not even if you was to hear of my being dead, for he would be capable of altering his will and not think of my d<sup>r</sup> Caroline. Pass'd by here last week Cap<sup>n</sup> Wynyard, Ass<sup>t</sup> Adj<sup>t</sup> General, & Cap<sup>n</sup> a'Court, Aide de Camp, who as promised me to forward my letters with their's to England, therefore I am in great hopes this will reach you. The Queen has sent me word, if I can procure any writing to prove I have a right to a pension, she is willing to grant me one. A pretty answer for a Queen! but can I expect justice from the Court of Palermo? I don't like to tell you my reasons, but don't write to her any more, she's an ungrateful wretch.

'I told you in my last that poor Wade is prisoner; pray believe me, & write me word you have paid Gibbs. I have wrote by *this post* to my uncle & to d<sup>r</sup> Mrs. Leckie. Caroline is well, but poor little Emma is in a very bad way. I think before this reaches you she will be in Paradise; she is the very image of her mother. How I long to know how your dear Horatia comes on in her education; wether she is good & loves her dear mother & grandmother. If she is, pray give her a thousand kisses for me, & think of me sometimes with regard, for God knows if ever I shall recover my health again. I feel sick at my very heart. Pray how is Sarah and Cecilia, Mrs. Harrison, & all my friends. I long much to hear from you. Mrs. Denison as had the happiness of receiving a letter from her sister; am very happy to hear she is well. God bless you, my dearest of friends. Believe me,' &c.

'P.S.—I am sorry I can't perform your commission of the corral & musick, for my disappointments in the money way prevents me having that pleasure.'

980. A. L. S. from Miss Anne N. Bolton to the same. Dated Cranwich, September 10th, 1809. 2 pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'I should certainly have written to you before, but waited in hopes of hearing or seeing something of your servant; suppose he is not in Norfolk, as Miss Mary is still with her mother and seems quite quiet; hope you will not have occasion to fret yourself any more about either him or her. I shall direct this to Richmond, as I suppose you will have left Ashfold. My father, Tom, & one of my cousins from Suffolk, are at Brancaster in hopes of having some good shooting. The young squire was rather disappointed that he had not better spent the first day or two; hope he will return better pleased with his new dogs and himself. Indeed, my dear Lady, my letter must be very stupid, for we have not any news in this part. Mr. Hitch is now here; he is going to B. to fetch his wife. I think you have seen her at Akenham when you where there. Hope Horatia is quite recovered and has not had a return of her illness; pray give my love and kisses to her and all your party. My mother sends her love; hopes you will not forget your promise of writing to her soon. We have Mr. & Mrs. Rolfe to stay a day and night with us; I think she is a very pleasant woman. She is in the family way, which, of course, gives Mr. R. a great deal of pleasure. You asked me if Mrs. Partridge's child was an idiot—*no*; it is, I am happy to say, different from all the others, and am in hopes it will live to be a comfort to the poor father, who is now, I am sorry to say, in very bad health. Believe me,' &c.

'P.S.—Excuse the shortness of this, but I have been out all day in the harvest-field, and am quite tired and (as you will find) stupid.'

981. A. L. S. from Mrs. Bolton to the same. Dated 'Cranwich, Friday morning' (September 29th, 1809).  $1\frac{1}{2}$  pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'Now, my dear Lady, I think your visit to Ashfold must be over, & all your summer excursions must be nearly at an end, & you will now turn your thoughts towards Cranwich, where you will be most cordially received. Out doors it begins to look rather dreary, but within you will find warm and affectionate hearts to receive you; a few days' notice will suffice. Tom is still at Brancaster shooting; he is a bad sportsman, but uncommonly fond of it. The air and exercise agree with him; he was never better. Tell Horatia we shall be happy to keep her birthday & Anne together this year. How long it is since we had the pleasure of hearing from you; hope we shall soon have a letter from you. You will excuse the incoherence of this letter when I tell you Mr. Bolton and Anne are playing backgammon, & amongst the party is Miss Langford, who begs to be remembered to you. The party joins in the good and kind wishes to you, Mrs. Cadogan, & Miss S. Conner. Believe me,' &c.

982. A. L. S. from Mrs. Bolton and from Miss Anne N. Bolton to the same. No date (October 12th, 1809). 3 pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'What can be the reason, my dear Lady, that we have not heard from you. I was in hopes that you would have fix'd your time for coming into Norfolk. I long to see you; why not keep the birth days together? I sent Mrs. Cadogan a hare last week, & this day Tom sends you two brace of birds. He returned from Brancaster this week not very successfull in the shooting way; he begs his kindest love to all. Lady Bolton & Emma are gone to Brancaster quite recovered; it was very unfortunate her being so ill when her husband was at Plymouth, as he had flattered himself that when he had brought in two prizes that he should have had the pleasure of seeing his wife & child; he was not able to come into Norfolk. Mrs. Andrews is with me for a few days; she begs her best respects to you. Do think seriously of coming; we long to see you & dear Horatia. Anne claims the other part of the letter. Believe me,' &c.

'P.S.—Ask Blindy if she received a *fat* goose from me on the 11th Oct<sup>r</sup>.

(LETTER FROM ANNE BOLTON.)

'I suppose by this time you are returned from Ashfold, and that you have received my mother's invitations; hope you have determined to come and give us a little of your good company this dull weather. I have been to Brancaster for two days since I wrote to you last; happy to say they were, and are, all well. Mrs. Pierson rather disappointed at not hearing from you; she talks of being in town after Xmas. Caroline is much improved. Lady Bolton and dear little Emma are at B.; Emma often talks of Horatia, who, I hope, is well. She has long promised to write to me, but I have never yet been favored. Hope she has quite recovered her late indisposition. Pray give my love and a kiss to her & dear Mrs. Cadogan, who, I flatter myself, does not quite forget the Anne to whom she was so good and nursed with such motherly care. Suppose she has been to see Mrs. Newcombe, who is well, I hope. Pray remember me to Sarah & Cecilia. Tom, I am happy to inform you, is quite well and strong. You must excuse the shortness of this letter, but my mother, of course, said all she could muster, & left nothing for me to say than that I am,' &c.

983. A. L. S. from Thomas Kidd and Jonathan Ingham to the same. Dated Greenwich, November 17th, 1809.  $2\frac{3}{4}$  pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'I rec<sup>d</sup> your's, and should have been happy had it been in my power to have



acted according to your directions, which it is not possible for me to do as I would wish. For I declare my small cloaths are scandoulos, and my hat has the crown part nearly off, but Mr. and Mrs. Ingam has contriv'd it so that what I was in need of they have lent me. I have to inform you that your brother Chas. is in Greenwich College, and has been here since the 6th inst.; and when I informed Mr. and Mrs. Ingam that he was here, they have given him a strong invitation for to pass what few hours he has to spare to abide at their house, and Mr. Ingham has got him removed from the Hall where y<sup>r</sup> brother was, to an appartment belonging to the Hall where Mr. Ingham is. From y<sup>r</sup> aff<sup>te</sup> cous<sup>n</sup>,' &c.

(LETTER FROM JONATHAN INGHAM.)

'Your kind offer to do me a service is more than I could ever expect; but I believe, by what I have been creditly informed, that there will be a vacancy for a porter at the West Gate at Christmas next, as the man who is porter now is very old and infirm that he is not able to do his duty, so that he is to be superannuated; so I hope that your Ladyship's indisposition will not prevent you from making intercession in my behalf, by letter or in person, to the Lords of the Admiralty, who, I make no dout, by so doing I shall meet with that encouragement as I desire. But should I be dissuppointed of the situation of porter, there is the roasting cook very ill at this time, and, should that place be vacant, will prove acceptable to me.

'P.S.—As to my character when I was in His Majesty's service, I believe it to be justifiable in every degree, for I have served as a sailor on board the *Barfleur* and *Prince* near 10 years, and never had one complaint against me. So I remain,' &c.

984. A. L. S. from Mrs. Bolton to the same. Dated 'Tuesday morning' (November 21st, 1809). 3 pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'How sorry we all were to hear you had been so very unwell; the last, I much think, has been on your *spirits*—the worst of all disorders, which these November fogs are much against. This fine, cheerful frost will brace your nerves & revive you again. Poor Capt. Stains, I cou'd, I am sure, have joined you in your tears; I have such a respect and regard for an officer with one arm that, if the young ladies are of my opinion, he may chuse were he will for a wife. To the surprize of all my neighbours, I went to the Coursing-Meeting Ball, which was very full—many of the county families. I staid two nights at Mrs. Langford, Susanna and Eliza with me. Poor Anne not well enough, yet at times very full of spirits; I hope she will be one day very strong again.

'When I came home who should we find here to dinner but Capt. Manby\*; had I been a certain *great lady* I should not have much admired him—a good-hearted sailor, but did not strike me with elegance of person or manner. He has been at our windows this morning in his shooting dress looking much the same; he is expecting a ship-of-the-line, he has given up the *Thalia*. Tom is gone to Cambridge; before he went—last Sunday week—he sent you a leash of birds, all he had. I hope you have received them. Mrs. Pierson is here to make me a visit in her way to Tottenham to spend her Xmas. Did I tell you my cousin R. Rolfe has got another daughter?

'I am glad to find Mrs. Dart has disposed of her daughter so much to her satisfac ion; she begs me to assure you how grateful they are for your kindness and attention (so different from all others) she says. Tell my dear Horatia, Caroline Pierson begs her love; she is grown very tall & improved, we think, but still that little reserve. No account from W<sup>m</sup> Girdlestone yet; Harry was here last week.

'We all join in kind love to Mrs. Cadogan, Horatia, & the 2 Miss Conner. Emily Yonge came out—by some thought the beauty of that family.

'God bless you, my dear Lady, ever believe me,' &c.

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\* Capt. George William Manby, 1765–1854, inventor of apparatus for saving life at sea, and an old schoolfellow of Nelson's. In 1803 he was appointed Barrack Master at Yarmouth. According to the *New National Biography*, he married, in 1793, a daughter of Dr. Preston. She died in 1814, and in 1818 he married a daughter of Sir Manners Gooch.

985. A. L. S. from Miss C. Matcham\* to the same. Dated Ashfold Lodge, 'Sunday Nt' (1809?). 3½ pages 4to. [P.]

'I should long before have acknowledged your very kind letter, but Miss Owens particularly requested me to defer it till she should have the pleasure of delivering it to you in person; and, as it was likewise an agreement between ourselves, I hope you will exculpate me from all appearance of neglect. Miss Owens anticipates much pleasure in seeing yourself and dear Horatia, and giving you an account of all our party; she will be absent three weeks, during which time I shall be employed in *keeping school*, & should feel very happy in having Horatia of *my* party, but suppose *she* will be *employed* in celebrating the wedding at Bradenham *Hall*, as I understand you are expected to grace them with your presence at that period. Lady Bolton wrote me word it was to take place at Xmas, if so the time is fast approaching. We have had Mr. Haslewood and Dr. Lawrence staying here for one day; the latter papa wrote to you about on Monday, and the doctor intends taking the liberty of calling upon you. Mr. Haslewood is quite delighted with his additions at the park, and expects to be enabled to pass a month or two there in the autumn with his family. The Lambs are gone to Bath to spend their winter, and I think they will find themselves much more comfortably situated there than upon the bleak hill of Tilgate, with a road to the house quite impassable, which you can easily imagine is the case from the experiment you had in the summer. Our *great favorite*, Mr. Coxe, promised to visit the forlorn inhabitants of Ashfold Lodge at Xmas, but we have had no notice to prepare for his arrival (tho' he informs us his bed he can bring in his *pocket*), that I am apt to suspect he is like most other *single gentlemen—very changeable*. The Graingers are all quite recovered, but poor Mrs. Taylor is laid up with the gout, which must occasion Mrs. Grainger much trouble, who I think is looking wonderfully well considering the fatigue she has undergone. I have not heard a syllable of the Col. and his Lady for some time, nor do I think it likely we can have any communication from that quarter. The Pilfolds have just got their little girl from school, which will detain her at home all the holidays. Your friend Mr. Fieron honor'd us with his company a fortnight ago, and, believe me, reminded us of the delightful singing which you favor'd him with, particularly the universal favorite "Fly not yet." Harriet is very busy writing to her cousin, to whom she owes a letter, but, as she does not see quite so many *lions*, cannot tell her so much news. I suppose Horatia is anxiously waiting for the appearance of this new performer at Covent Garden—the elephant; pray give our best love to her, & I shall be most happy to hear from you, my dear Lady Hamilton, whenever you feel inclined to write. Your *Godson* has got five teeth, and is so lively; Mr. Haslewood was quite delighted with him. Horace is very much improved, and grown tall; all the others are quite well. If you are at the wedding we shall be happy to hear when it has taken place—at any rate, let me hear from you soon. In the meantime believe me,' &c.

986. A. L. S. from Miss Anne N. Bolton to the same. Dated Cranwich, November 26th, 1809. 2½ pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'I should have answered yours, but have not been well this last fortnight, but am now as well as usual. Was sorry to hear you had been so ill; hope you will now enjoy better health, as by your account you have had a pretty good clearance. My mother was much pleased to hear Miss Dart was married. We are all happy to hear Capt. Staines is in such good health & spirits, and that he is knighted, for though it is but a poor Order, yet it may (we think) bribe some fair lady or other to bless him with herself & fortune for the pleasure of being called *my Lady*. Give my best love to Horatia, tell her Emma is quite well and can play halfe a tune which her aunt Pierson taught her. She is fond of it, and plays from morning till night; hope she will come and give her a little instruction. She sends her love to her. She often has Miss Horatia down to kiss.

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\* Mrs. Matcham's eldest daughter, Catherine. She married, in 1820, John Bendysche, Esq., a Lieutenant in the navy, and died in 1831.



'This is bad weather for London and for dear Mrs. Cadogan, who I hope has not got a return of her old complaint. Give my love to her, & tell her Tom was quite well when we last heard. He is so fond of shooting and everything that belongs to it, that we had a letter sealed with a pointer, quite sportsman-like. He will return in three weeks, when, I am sorry to say, we shall loose Mrs. Pierson and her daughter, who are a great acquisition, particularly as Eliza is now at Brancaster. You must not expect any news from me, one day is so much like the other that we can hardly tell the difference; to *me* there is a little variation, for one day I am well and the other ill with my old and faithfull complaint, which I now have done tormenting with doctors. You must excuse the shortness of this, as the boy is going to the post directly. My sister Kate has had a letter this morning from Kitty Matcham; I am happy to say all the family are well. Give my love to Sarah & Cecilia; hope the latter *is better* than when you last mentioned her.

'I suppose you heard that Susanna, Eliza, with my mother, whent to Swaffham Ball; saw a great many smart people. I did not go, as was not quite well, and thought sitting up so late would compleatly knock me up. You must excuse the bad writing, as I have been in a hurry all through this letter. Hope you will favor me with an answer soon, and say that you and all the family are well. My mother, sister, and Mrs. Pierson, with all the rest of the party, jhoin with me in best love to you and yours. Pray write to your ever,' &c.

987. A. L. S. from Lady Bolton to the same. Dated Stoke, January 3rd, 1810. 3 pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'I have this instant received a letter from Susanna giving me your direction, and, tho' I have time to write only a few lines, I am determined to write by this post if I can possibly finish it in time. I cannot describe my disappointment at calling at No. 36 Albermarle Street and finding they did not know you. I then tried at No. 44, the Hotel, but they said they knew no such person. Poor Emma then began to look quite melancholy at the thought of not seeing cousin Horatia and her Godmama, and I assure (you) I looked quite as dismal—in short, you must have anticipated quite as much pleasure from the meeting as we did before you can have any idea of our disappointment. I was loth to leave the street without a further attempt, and seeing a letter carrier we stopped him, feeling certain of his knowing where you resided; but, unlucky as we were fated to be, he did not deliver the letters in that street. I would have gone to Bond Street to enquire where you were to be found, but we were so stricted for time it was almost impossible that I could have gone, at all events, had I not taken it into my stupid head that you must always go to No. 44, but that from some accident you had not received Anne's letter and were at Richmond. I feel so vexed with myself at having missed seeing you, when I was so near. Pray write to me and let me have at least the pleasure of hearing of you, tho' I did not see you. It is the only amends I can now have. You cannot think how melancholy I felt when we passed the gate at the top of Piccadilly, thinking how often we had passed it together. We travelled on without having a minute, as we did not stop to take any refreshment from six in the morning till eight at night, then got here on Monday last to dinner. It was three days after the time the *Helena* was expected to sail, but she is not yet ready, which provokes me very much, as I might have spent a day or two with you in town and still have been in time. If you will have the goodness to write to me within two or three days after you receive this I may possibly get it before I sail—at any rate, it will be forwarded to me; but if you have not time I will write and give you my address as soon as I get to Cork, but I hope, if you are well enough, you will write here. Emma sends her best love and kisses to you and Horatia and Mrs. Cadogan; when I told her just now how if we had gone two houses further we should have seen you, she looked very grave. At last she called out, "Pray, mama, promise me to call as we go back to Cranwich." I declare I feel much more pained than I did when I thought you were at Richmond, for then I blamed only my bad fortune, now I feel vexed to the heart at my own stupidity. God bless you, my dear Lady. H., and pray write

to me. My love to Mrs. Cadogan, Miss Conner, and my dear Horatia ; how I long to see her. I will write as soon as I am settled at Cork.'

988. A. L. S. from Mrs. Pierson to the same. Dated Tottenham, January 7th, 1810. 3½ pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'I have just received a letter from Lady Bolton, informing me of the great disappointment at not being able to see you on her way through town. She proceeded to number thirty six Albemarle St., and was informed you were not known there. They then drove to No. 44 in the same street, thinking as it is a Family Hotel, you might be known there, but with no better success, and at last, had the mortification of being obliged to proceed on their journey without seeing you, which was the more distressing, as you were expecting them. I don't know how the mistake in the address happened, but I know that their disappointment has saved me one, for I should have sought you there the first opportunity. I beg you will give me a line, that I may know where to find you if you are in town, as I shall be anxious to see you. Lady Bolton bore her journey much better than I expected, and my father left her very comfortably settled with Mrs. Smith and Emma, quite domesticated with the little folk. The *Helena* was not quite ready for sea, so that I trust Sir William will be at Cork to receive her at her arrival there. Her joining him is so much for their mutual happiness, that I almost rejoiced at parting with her. I shall be very anxious to hear of her safe arrival at Cork. My father was so pressed for time on his return, that I had the mortification of knowing he passed the end of White Hart Lane and could not see him. He did not reach home till last night. I have not heard from Cranwich. Poor Susanna! how I pity her! This separation must be a cruel one for her. Kate has a pleasure in view to repay her for all, but Susanna will for a long while feel her loss, I fear. Remember me to your mother and Horatia, whom I expect to see much grown, & who I hear is improved. Caroline sends her love to her. We have had a large party this Christmas, but our pleasure was damped by the situation of poor Mrs. W. Robinson, who had just received the intelligence that there was no hope entertained of the safety of the *Harriet* commanded by her brother—Captain Ridge. With remembrance to the Miss Connors.'

989. A. L. S. from Sir H. Fetherstonhaugh to the same. Dated Up Park, 'Thursday' (January 14th, 1810). 2¼ pages 4to., with Superscription and Seal. [P.]

'It gives me the greatest pleasure to receive a more favourable account from you, and I trust you will soon be relieved from all that load of anxiety you have had so much of lately, & which no one so little deserves. That arising from our own ill-health & the indisposition of others, we are all liable to, but *feeling* minds only suffer much for the latter. As I am alive to all nervous sensations, be assured I understand your language. They are troublesome and *de trop* sometimes, yet I would not wish to be altogether without them, & wrap myself up in cold indifference. Pray take care of yourself. Endeavour to obtain rest which you have been so long without, & make use of all the resources of a strong mind & a happy disposition. I generally stay here till the end of March, and shall hardly be in town before my usual time. Be assured I shall lose no time in seeing you, which I wish much to do, having many things to say to one, who, I am pleased to think, feels an interest for me. Tho' I lament that there should be such a reason for your quitting Richmond, because none such ought to exist had you common justice done you, yet your judgement is good in doing so, and at all events I shall stand a better chance of seeing more of you. I hope you received the first basket of game as well as the last. You shall certainly continue to have a supply from time to time. Receive it as a mark of attention most gratifying to myself to shew. Pray let me hear from you occasionally, & when you get out again you may have some entertaining observations to make. Do you often hear from, and sometimes see (when you get out) the D. of Q.? Tho' Napoleon may not be acting from *passion*, he is playing a most nice political game. I should like to *prier aux noces*.'



990. A. L. S. from Mrs. Pierson to the same. Dated Tottenham, January 24th (1810). 1½ pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'Ever since Saturday (when I learnt the melancholy loss\* you are afflicted with) I have been impatient to be with you, and nothing but the expectation I was daily in of going to town prevented my writing to offer to come to you. At present I have been unable to learn (having been entirely confined to the country) whether you are in town or country, but I conclude the latter. Only let me know that you wish for me, & I will be with you as soon as I am able, and will bring Caroline or not, as you please, for Mrs. Robinson will take charge of her in my absence. I know too well how vain all attempts at offering consolation for your loss must be to attempt it, but, be assured, my dear friend, I most sincerely partake of your sorrow and regrets, & with love to Horatia remain,' &c.

991. A. L. S. from Mrs. Bolton to the same. No date (January 27th, 1810). 1 page 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'I must write, tho' I have before written to Miss Conner, and hoped to have heard, but Cecilia said you were not only grieved, but very unwell. Do pray cause to be written only one line to say how your health is—miserable I know you must be. Dear Blessed Saint, was she not a mother to us all. How I wish I was near you, but that is impossible. I am afraid I shall never get so far from home again, but I know you have many kind friends around you. My dear friend, endeavour to support yourself under this very severe trial, for the sake of dear Horatia. What can she do without you & many other friends, amongst whom I rank myself. Do pray come to me as soon as the spring gets milder. Every one here will endeavour to soothe you. The united love of this party send love.

'Anne in particular, she is most grieved for her kind friend.

992. A. L. S. from Sir H. Fetherstonhaugh to the same. Dated Up Park, 'Sunday' (January 28th, 1810). 2 pages 4to., with Superscription and Seal. [P.]

'It was with much pain and sincere anxiety for yourself, that I read an account in the paper of the loss you had sustained, but you have the best and surest consolation in the reflexion of having constantly shown such marks of duty and affection to a parent as must have made her life happy, & been the source of much permanent comfort & satisfaction. Time alone can heal the wound which such a loss naturally inflicts, with the assistance of excellent sense, great fortitude, and the most amiable disposition, all of which you possess in an eminent and most advantageous degree. I wish I had been on the spot to have offered to contribute to the relief of your mind by friendly interviews, which, I am sure, you would have admitted of from *me*, as it is best procured in the conversation of those on similar occasions who are persuaded of the interest which each may feel for the other. Pray let me hear soon that you are better, & reconciled to what cannot be otherwise. As for peace, I cannot recommend it to any one as an object to look forward to, unless to those in infancy, there is no probable chance of it for such as have reached years of maturity, *unless* they outlive the race of speculators who fatten upon the distresses of others. Among the *millions* wasted, it is hard to withhold a mite so much *your* due. We have a constant fog, tho' not so thick, probably, as yours in London, where you must have candles in the middle of the day. A sharp frost also, & very cold, tho' that is hardly ever felt in this house. I expect the Duke of Argyll, Sefton, &c., &c., to-day to finish the shooting campaign. You shall not fail to be the better for it, only tell me if I am to continue to direct to you in Stratford Place. I hope you got the last gibier duly delivered.'

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\* Referring to the death of Mrs. Cadogan.

993. A. L. S. from Mrs. Bolton to the same. Dated Cranwich, 'Monday,' February 12th (1810). 2½ pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'I was glad to find by your letter to Anne you were something better. I always liked the Linds, & now I shall like them better than ever for their kindness to you. I hope you will find your present lodging comfortable, & that you will endeavour to keep up your spirits, after a storm comes a calm, & God knows, you have had storm enough, & surely the sun must shine sometimes; but I am writing a parcel of nonsense, you will say, but Anne calls out, "Mother, write to my lady, she likes to hear from us." Poor thing, she is too ill to write herself, as her liver complaint is very bad. Mr. Steele was apprehensive of an abscess being formed; we are now rubbing in mercury, and we hope the knob is swelling & softer, but it makes her very unwell. I am glad you are such good friends with the Duke. I hope you may continue so to his life's end, for, depend upon it, who ever is most in favour then will have the largest legacy. All the world dies around him, but he stands alone, whenever he does go it will be suddenly. I hear Mr. Johnson has left Mrs. Yonge a hundred a year, but the bulk of his fortune to the Johnsons, children of his brother, who died in India, not more than fourteen thousand pounds, if so much, as he had sunk part for an annuity. Mrs. Girdlestone & her daughters are here, and desire their love, as does my son to you, Horatia, and the Connors. He goes to Cambridge very soon; he talks of being in town at Easter, but before then I hope you will be with me. Mr. Bolton & the girls beg to be kindly remembered to you. We had a letter from Lady Bolton last week, she has lodgings at the Cove. Sr W<sup>m</sup> was to sail again in a few days.'

994. A. L. S. from Miss Anne N. Bolton to the same. Dated Cranwich, February 18th, 1810. 3 pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'Thank you for your kind letter, which was a great comfort both to my mother and myself, as we were very anxious to see your handwriting. Susanna had a letter from Mrs. Pierson this morning, in which she says she has seen you, and is coming to stay with you a week (and a week next month). Did you not think Caroline improved? Suppose Horatia was pleased to see her; they will be good friends, no doubt. Give my love to Horatia, beg her to write to me, or I shall be very much hurt, as Caroline wrote to Susanna to-day. How do you like your lodgings? Hope they will suit you, being so near the Duke will be a great comfort; indeed, my dear Lady, I hope we shall soon meet, though Norfolk is not very gay, yet we will do everything in our power to make it so to you and yours. You will find us in the same house, and everything the same as you left it, except, indeed, we may have got a new sett of hens and geese, an additional cow or horse. The only difference will be in us, for instead of regret we shall feel joy. Perhaps I shall be well as I go on with the same stuff, enough of my stuff. Will you enquire of Captain Gooch, or some of the East Indian Directors, if they have heard or seen anything from the *Carnatic*, the ship that Will<sup>m</sup> Girdlestone went out in, as my aunt has not yet heard from him. She is (as you may suppose) very anxious about him, as there are two or three ships lately come from Bengal. Pray, my dear Lady, send a note, or speak to Capt. Gooch immediately, and write to me as soon as you hear. Perhaps they can tell you when we may expect to hear from him; my poor aunt and Anne fret themselves to death. You, I fear, have a fellow feeling for them. You will not fail to inquire directly. Pray, is it true that Mrs. de Frize is gone off with Mr. Holding? I remember him at Mrs. Lambert's; he was then flirting with Miss Lind, now Mrs. Dennis. It is singular that one of the Linds should be a *Dennis*. How is your Mrs. Dennis? You know she was a great favourite of mine. Give my love to all those who inquire after me. I forgot to say we heard from Kate yesterday. She does not like Cove in the least, they are so dirty. She is with the Admiral twice a week; they sit down to dinner by Steels' list.\* I think I have written a long letter, which, I hope, you will not fail to answer. My mother, with the whole party, send love to all.'

\* It is, perhaps, scarcely necessary to note that *Steele's List* was the navy list of that period.  
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995. A. L. S. from Sir H. Fetherstonhaugh to the same. Dated Up Park, 'Monday, 19' (February, 1810). 2 pages 4to., with Superscription and Seal. [P.]

'I am very much pleased to find that you are fixed in a situation which has the *agrément*s you mention, & be assured the first place I visit after I get to London will be No. 76 Piccadilly; but it will not be so soon as I would otherwise wish, did not business engagements detain me here longer than I expected. I must wait to receive a party *chez moi* the end of next month, then, *chemin faisant*, I must pay a visit for a week or ten days, which will make it the middle of April before I take you by the hand. We have a deep snow at present, of all weathers the most disagreeable, and I know of no place worse in it than London, unless you make up your mind not to go out at all. Have you music often? Do you go out, or how do you pass your time? No one better deserves to be happy. You have resources within yourself which no one can deprive you of, & which will better administer comfort and restore you to cheerfulness than all the extraneous gifts of fortune. Have you got your young *élèves* with you again? Napoleon will soon dispose of the Peninsular, which anyone of common sense might have foreseen, yet our wise Government is subsidising a Portuguese army. *Quelle folie étonnante!* Pray continue to write, you may always find something interesting to say, whereas my letters must always partake of the dulness of a country gentleman.

'I will order some gibier under the rose to be sent to-morrow, as the time is past the *long tails* must not appear.

'Let me know they come safe.'

996. A. L. S. from Mrs. Bolton to the same. Dated Cranwich, 'Monday, noon' (April 9th, 1810). 2 pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'How are you in the midst of this uproar & mob? Whenever we think or read of Burdett,\* we speak of you. How uncomfortable you must be! Do leave it all & come to us; we shall be so happy to see you & all your party; it will be a change of scene for you at least. Anne, I hope, is better; she wrote to Sarah Connor to enquire after you, as we were uneasy; you do not write *one* line to us. Mrs. Girdlestone & her daughter leave us to-morrow; they beg to be remembered to you. Henry is coming to take Mr. Partridge's curacies next May; the poor man, I doubt, will live but a short time; he is going to Cheltenham I fear for the last time.

'The great Capt. Manby is married, and lives in lodgings in Northwold with only one servant, cook — & butler, till his own cottage, w<sup>h</sup> he has purchased, is repaired. As to the Swaffham people, I very seldom see them; but I hear the Archdeacon, his lady, & his daughters, are going into Devonshire; the beauty, Mary Anne Mercer, is married to a clergyman, & Miss Dalton is married, & many more marriages are on the *tapis*, which I shall tell you of when I have the pleasure of seeing you here, which I hope you will fix an early week for. Give all our loves to dear Horatia; tell her all the tea things are in order for her; all my family join in kind love to you.'

997. A. L. S. from Mrs. Pierson to the same. Dated Cranwich, 'Sunday morning' (May 19th, 1810). With A. L. S. attached from Mrs. Bolton to the same. 3½ pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'I went yesterday as far as Castleacre on my return home, expecting to be met by my father; but from some mistake I was disappointed and obliged to return. I called on Miss Langford at Swaffham, who told me she heard you were very ill. I trust her information is incorrect, yet I cannot be easy till I hear

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\* Sir Francis Burdett, 1770–1844, a well-known politician, M.P. for Middlesex from 1807 to 1837. Just before the date of the letter an attempt had been made to convey him to the Tower for contempt, a proceeding which gave rise to such disorders that it was found necessary to read the Riot Act; nor did the military succeed in arresting him until the 9th of April.

from yourself ; therefore, if you have not already written, pray let me have a letter from you on my arrival at Brancaster, which will be on Tuesday next ; if not, you will occasion me the greatest uneasiness on your account. I found all well at my arrival here except Anne, & she is, I am happy to say, much better than when I came, tho' still far from well. Mrs. Girdlestone has at last received letters from William Girdlestone down to the fifth of October ; he writes in as good spirits as we could expect, and my aunt is made quite comfortable on his account. To-day the ladies are going to pay the bride's visit to Captain & Mrs. Manby at the *Lodge*, as they denominate their lodgings ; I shall remain at home with Anne, as I have had enough of travelling lately.

'Our chaise is just arrived to take me home to-morrow. I find all are well at Brancaster, though my d<sup>r</sup> mother has had a very serious billious attack. We had a letter from Lady Bolton yesterday, written after my brother sailed ; she has been ill with a fever, but is recovering fast ; she says their society is much improved by the addition of Mrs. Toby and Miss Duff, & a Mrs. Jones and her sister, Miss Palmer, all within a few doors of her. Emma thinks the brogue so very pretty, that her mother cannot prevent her acquiring it ; she will return to us a compleat Irish girl ; her father writes she is the admiration of all at Cove. I hope you have before this disposed of your house at Richmond, and are thinking of coming into the country ; it will soon be very pleasant, tho' at present I am too great a sufferer from the cold to enjoy it much. Anne will add a few lines, she says. Caroline joins me in best love to your Ladyship and our dear Horatia. How goes on Miss Lind's love affairs ? Remember me to her & Mrs. Lind. I think I deserve a long letter from you in return for my two very stupid ones ; but I have complied with your request, altho' I had but little to inform you of. Write as soon as you can, & believe me,' &c.

(LETTER FROM MRS. BOLTON.)

'The sun shines bright, & Anne is recovering after 3 months' confinement ; do come to us, who will be happy to embrace you & dear Horatia. Bring as many of your family as is convenient ; do, my dear friend, fix your time for coming. I have much to hear & much to tell. Anne would have written if Mrs. Pierson had not ; she has been for the latter part dangerously ill ; she now gets out in the carriage. We all join in kind love & regards. Yours,' &c.

998. A.L.S. from Mr. William Nelson to the same. Dated Monday, July 23rd, 1810. 2 pages 4to, with Superscription and Seal. [P.]

'It is a trying case for me to presume to trouble your Ladyship with another letter. It is at the request of James Hicks, Esq., brother of Captain Hicks, who had the command of a ship in His Majesty's Service. Both James Hicks, Esq., and Captain Thomas Hicks was intimately acquainted with that noble and glorious Lord Nelson, who was the pride of this country. At the time I did myself the pleasure of leaving a letter for your Ladyship, I flattered myself with the pleasing hopes confer'd on me of seeing your Ladyship, but was not in town. I live at Bethnal Green, five miles from Piccadilly ; I attended four days following, but was not so fortunate as to find your Ladyship in town till last Saturday, when your servant told me that you had company with you. I beg'd him to acquaint your Ladyship that I would wait at Mrs. Bridgman a few hours, which I did ; on enquiry of your servant if your Ladyship was disengaged, he told me that you was ill, & could not see company. It was a sensible mortification to hear of your sudden indisposition ; I beg'd my respectful compliments, wish'd you a speedy recovery, and I would do myself the honor to call again. I hope I have not incur'd your Ladyship's displeasure in attempting to see you in my mean, miserable situation ; you might take offence, of which, if that was the case, I must, upon mature deliberation, confess myself to be guilty of an error, which I trust you will have the goodness to overlook. Poverty is certainly an enemy to virtue and polite manners, and sometimes it is the fate of persons such as myself to fall a victim to and become so oppressed as never to be able to overcome distress. Yet as I am conscious of never having had in my mind the least intention of giving your Ladyship offence, I entertain a hope that



you will not hide your face from me or suffer me to go empty away ; and that I may not be looked upon to be an impostor, permit me to relate to your Ladyship that I am in the greatest want of almost every necessary of life. It is the greatest distress that urged me to appeal to your tender feelings and humanity. Should your Ladyship deem this a censurable liberty from an individual and perfect stranger to your Ladyship, I shall bend with humble submission to your correction, still presuming on your Ladyship's forgiveness, being impelled by the irresistible motive of severe want and distress. Anything, ever so trifling, will be truly acceptable to one who begs leave to solicit your pardon for thus presuming ; and give me leave to subscribe myself, &c.

'P.S.—If I have not the honor to be admitted into your presence, whatever trifle you'll be pleased to bestow on me you will be pleased to give it to Mrs Bridgmans for me, as I told her I had the honor to be related to Lord Nelson. Mrs. Bridgman said that you were a well-disposed, humane, good lady as lives, and if she gave her anything for me I should be sure to receive it.'

999. A. L. S. from Mrs. Bolton to the same. Dated Cranwich, ' Sunday, noon ' (September 9th, 1810). 3 pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'A letter from your fair hand is always acceptable to me. I think the time very long since you wrote to me. (Except coming to me) I think you have done the wisest & the best thing you could do : change of scene, & the society of kind friends. I wish I could peep in upon you all ; the spirit is willing, but the body is weak. But I have been to Swaffham for 3 or 4 days, & to as many plays, to Swaffham, & then to Saham to make the lying-in visit, when, lo & behold, I might had I waited a little longer, I might have made two, for the lady was very large. Robert is likely to have a large family, but our visit was not very cheerful, as we received intelligence that poor little W<sup>m</sup> Taylor was at death's door, but I have not heard this week, which I hope a good sign. You ask for a picnic letter. My companion, Anne, is at Brancaster ; Henry came home yesterday, all well. You ask me, my dear Lady, when they will be married—when they have any thing to live upon. A little will suffice, but that little they must have ; but where to look for preferment I know not. My interest is buried in our dear & lamented friend and brother. Now we talk of interest, may I ask you, my dear friend, a question—is it in your power to get a young man a *cadet* to the East Indies. It is for a godson of mine, one of Mrs. Sam Bolton's sons ; either of the Settlements will do. Try your influence with Mr. Matcham ; perhaps he knows one of the directors. Y<sup>r</sup> friend Capt. Gooch is likely to oblige you. In doing this you will much oblige me. We are in dayly expectation of hearing Lady Bolton's safe arrival at Plymouth in time for her to get home, as she expects to be confined in Oct<sup>r</sup> or November. I shall be glad to have her safe at home. Eliza Yonge is shortly to be married to Mr. De Legnum, a young clergyman of good preferment & good fortune. Mr. Henry Day & Miss Dugmore—so much for weddings. Births : Mrs. Guyon a healthy baby. Went the other evening to see Guyon perform *Glenalvon* in *Douglas*. What his performance is I leave you to judge from what you have seen. Mr. Wilbraham is going to quit Swaffham. My son is returned home from his tour into Yorkshire ; he wrote to you from there. Susanna desires her kind love ; she says were she to write volumes she could only say that. Accept & distribute all our kind regards to self and circle. When Emma returns she shall write to Horatia ; she is a famous letter inditer, tho' no pen woman. Where is Mrs. Nelson to be found ? The time is come for a goose.'

1000. A. L. S. from Miss Sarah Connor to the same. Dated September 10th, 1810. 3½ pages 4to., with Superscription and Seal. [P.]

'Both of your's I got to day, and will act according to your last, which I told Mrs. Domier. She seemed quite disappointed. For my own part, I cannot see why she should, except that I believe them to be very poor indeed. I am much surprised has you are to think that a hundred pounds should be owing in a

few weeks. I am afraid that you have been paying rent for two good months before you took possession of your apartments. If so, I am sorry, for that is money all gone for nothing. No one will do it towards you—that is the way of this selfish world. The Duke sent to me for to know by what coach I sent parcels to you, which I sent to him, so I suppose he is going to send you something. Saturday I went to the play with Mrs. Billington, who, with Mrs. Bianchi, desires their love, and yesterday dined at Hammersmith and slept there; came home this morning. Mrs. Francis and her husband came yesterday from Merton to fetch the parrots, which went quite well and safe. You must excuse my freedom in the remark I am about to make, namely, in your being obliged to pay for the board when all will be away, except only servants, when I sett off. That has fretted me staying in town, as I thought it made you pay the same as when all was at home, but find that my absence nor yours makes no difference. This alters the plan of cheapness greatly in my opinion, for there never has been extravagant dinners, but good plain joints for you. But you, dearest Lady Hamilton, must be the best judge. If you think it right to consent to this arrangement, it must, I must candidly own I do not nor would not have this to vex you, it has me, but not knowing what Mrs. Domier and you agreed upon, in that case I am obliged to submit it to you. I hope to join you soon. With love to all I remain,' &c.

'Mrs. D. gave me leave to read the letter.'

1001. A. L. S. from the same to the same. Dated 'Monday, September 17th' (1810). 3½ pages 4to., with Superscription and Seal. [P.]

'Your two last letters I got, and thank you for them. I found the codicils and took them to Lord Herdly,\* but did not see him. I am almost ashamed to write the old story to you again. It is now 3 o'clock and no Mr. Goldsmid is come, nor do I look for him now to-day, so when I shall get to you God knows. Their's one excuse for him—the clerk told me the other day that it was feared he should lose a large sum of money. It would not ruin him as he was so rich, but that the amount was large. I hope it may turn out better than he expects. He is a good man; it's a pity he should suffer. The enclosed is, as you will find, from Mrs. Domier. It's true she is cunning, and you are right in keeping staunch to your plans, but, I think, as you do, she must gain from you. She wants the weeks that we are all away to be paid the same, and that, she says, will make up for the pound a-day not being enough when all is at home. What do you mean to do about coals? Has the weather is getting cold you will want fires when you come home. They are sixty pounds 1 shilling now, and will soon get to seventy. The worst of it is that their is not a cellar for us, but she talks of giving up the wine-cellar; that you, I daresay, would not like that she should. Still, when she does offer, for convenience take it; you pay for all, it's no favor. Mrs. Dillon found out that you was from home, wrote me a letter dated from Sloane Square to come and dine with her yesterday, but I did not go, for that would be renewing the acquaintance again. The Captain has got a ship and has sailed—that, I am glad of, and you will be glad to hear of it. Still, I think he might have called upon you before he went, as you was very kind to him. I suppose he was led astray by his wife's lies. Love to Horatia, and tell her I am obliged to her for writing to me, and I will answer herself.'

1002. A. L. S. from Mrs. Matcham to the same. Dated October 29th, 1810. 3 pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'Many thanks, my dear Lady, for your kind letter, which should have been acknowledged before this, but I was prevented by the illness of poor Kate. She has suffered very severely since you left us with a bilious complaint, attended with violent pain in the bowels. She is now, thank God! quite recovered, and getting up her strength again. As you say nothing of your own health, I hope you have

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\* Apparently Sampson Gideon, Lord Eardley, 1744–1824.



no return of your old complaints, & that the Sussex air has quite removed them. The weather is now so cold that I think you need (not) be alarmed at the want of air in Dover Street, where I suppose you are now settled. I was very happy to receive a few lines from Lady Bolton, & that she gave so good an account of her health. I think she seems to be all the better for exerting herself and leaving her mother's apron strings, or rather Susanna's.

'We have just recollected this is dear Horatia's birthday.\* God grant you and she may live to see many of them. Pray kiss her for us all, with our kind love to her. We this morning called upon the Pages with the intention of bringing them to pass a few days with us, but she is so very much hurt by this sad event that we could not prevail upon her to come to us at present. Whether they are to remain at Tilgate we have not yet heard. She asked very kindly after you; they went immediately to Morden, and were with the family during the dreadful scene of the first day, which, as you may suppose, has afflicted her health & spirits more than a short time will recover, as all her exertion was required at the moment to assist the afflicted family. I suppose you have seen some of them before this. I shall expect my weekly letter to-morrow, but cannot tax you with a return one, as I really have not materials to interest you. When any extraordinary event happens you will be sure to hear it. We all unite in every kind wish to you.

'Pray remember us to the Miss Connors.'

1003. A. L. S. from Emma Carew† to the same. Dated 'Sunday morning' (1810). 3 pages 4to., with Superscription and Seal. [P.]

'Mrs. Denis's mention of your name and the conversation she had with you, have revived ideas in my mind which an absence of four years has not been able to efface. It might have been happy for me to have forgotten the past, and to have began a new life with new ideas; but for my misfortune, my memory traces back circumstances which have taught me too much, yet not quite all I could have wished to have known—with you that resides, and ample reasons, no doubt, you have for not imparting them to me. Had you felt yourself at liberty so to have done, I might have become reconciled to my former situation and have been relieved from the painful employment I now pursue. It was necessary as I then stood, for I had nothing to support me but the affection I bore you; on the other hand, doubts and fears by turns oppressed me, and I determined to rely on my own efforts rather than submit to abject dependance, without a permanent name or acknowledged parents. That I should have taken such a step shews, at least, that I have a mind misfortune has not subdued. That I should persevere in it is what I owe to myself and to you, for it shall never be said that I avail myself of your partiality or my own inclination, unless I learn my claim on you is greater than you have hitherto acknowledged. But the time may come when the same reasons may cease to operate, and then, with a heart filled with tenderness and affection, will I shew you both my duty and attachment. In the meantime, should Mrs. Denis's zeal and kindness not have over-rated your expressions respecting me, and that you should really wish to see me, I may be believed in saying that such a meeting would be one of the happiest moments of my life, but for the reflection that it may also be the last, as I leave England in a few days, and may, perhaps, never return to it again. I remain,' &c.

1004. A. L. S. from Mrs. Bolton (with L. S. in Mrs. Bolton's writing from Emma Bolton to Horatia) to the same. Dated 'Friday morning' (November 23rd, 1810). 2 $\frac{3}{4}$  pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'I should have written to you some time since, but expected to have received a

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\* It is to be presumed that Horatia's birthday had always been wrongly placed in order to assist in the deception that she was not Lady Hamilton's daughter.

† Lady Hamilton's daughter by Captain Willett Payne, *vide* Vol. I., p. 85, *et seq.*

*Bramah* lock. Mr. Bolton wishes for it much ; when corn is in the barn we are much disturbed on nights.

'I am sorry to say we have a sick house. Poor Anne is always the patient. She mounted a horse on Friday, and got a bad fall. When they went to take her up she was black in the face ; they were fearfull she was dieing. However, they got her home, and sent for Mr. Steele immediately. He bled her, & had her carried to bed, where she has remained ever since, *very* weak and low, & full of pain. The blow was on the soft part of her body and her head, but she is, I hope, out of all danger. I hope by Xmas we shall all be well and happy to receive *you*. Emma begs I will write for her to Horatia. Will all join in kindest love to *you*. Lady Bolton begs I will say for her she would have written many days since, but she has been confined in the sick room. You may suppose we were all much *alarm'd*. God bless you, my dearest friend, yours,' &c.

(From EMMA BOLTON to HORATIA.)

'I send my love to you, and am expecting every day to get some muslin lace, ribbon & bobbin to make a cap for your doll. I cannot make it as I have not the pattern of your doll, but will make for you when you come at Xmas, if can be in a retired room, that no-one may take the pattern. I hope you will come as I will prepare a little present for *you*. My love to Lady Hamilton. Your,' &c.

1005. A. L. S. from Mrs. Matcham to the same. Dated 'Monday night' (December 4th, 1810).  $2\frac{1}{4}$  pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'I was very glad to receive a letter from you, my dear Lady, as it was three weeks since you wrote. We began to be afraid it was illness that prevented your writing, but I hope you have not had any return of your complaint. I had a letter from Mrs. Bolton on Saturday. She says Lady B. is getting well, & she thinks is growing fat. Very likely she may be better after this than she has been for years. Poor Anne is always ill. This is a sad accident, & will prevent her from riding, which is unlucky, as the exercise seemed to agree with her. Your letter on Saturday was truly melancholy. Poor Bianchi's fate is much to be lamented. I never saw him, but Mr. M. regrets him much. What could be the reason of his committing this rash act? How unfortunate he did not accompany her to Bath. She can never forgive herself for leaving him alone. It will be a dreadful home for her to return to. I am glad to hear dear Horatia is well. As to *her* being attentive to *her* studies and your kind advice, I am sure there is no doubt of. Our young folks are all dancing, and Horace is as lively as any of them. He very often talks of Mother Law, & is always delighted when a letter comes *from you*. We had Mr. Sheldrake down since you left us. He thinks his patient as much improved, or more so than he could have expected from the time, & he has no doubt but he will be quite straight. Hor. begs I will not forget his love. I am sorry to hear poor Blindy is so indifferent. She suffers much in this world. I think her greatest comfort is your kindness to her. Pray remember us to her. With our best love to dear Horatia and the Miss Connors. I remain,' &c.

1006. A. L. S. from Miss Anne N. Bolton to the same. Dated Cranwich, December 6th, 1810.  $2\frac{1}{4}$  pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'I yesterday received the gown and brooch, for which I hope you will be convinced I am thankfull. The gown I understand is from Horatia, therefore must trouble you to kiss her, and return my best thanks to her for so very pretty a dress, and that I hope she will come and see me in it, and then I shall not thank by proxy. To yourself, my dear Lady, it is useless for me to repeat what I have so often said before ; indeed I think when you make presents you ought to *coin* words to thank you in, for you, who give so many, and of course, receive so many thanks, must be tired of hearing the same thing so many times over. I shall not say anything, but hope that I shall all my life shew you the sincere gratitude I do, and ought to feel. You did not mention in your letter having received one from Lady Bolton in the parcel, or my mother's wig



which we also sent. Will write or ask Sarah to let us know whether you have or not? as we fear the parcel was opened on the road. My father is now at Brancaster, so I cannot thank and kiss him till he returns, but you [had] better come and do it yourself. I was disappointed that you did not mention coming in your last; the next, I hope, will fix the day. I am happy Horatia is in such good luck. Hope it will continue. I do not know Lord Powers. Did I ever see him? I think he must be a good sort of man. I see by the papers the King is better. I hardly believe it. I also see the Princess Mary is ill. It is to be hoped she will not die. How is Mrs. Denis? I beg you will give my love to her when you see her, and to aunt Middy. Beg her to kiss her neice for me. I suppose she is head nurse. Remember me to Mr. & Mrs. Lind. Hope the party went off with *éclat*, that the game proved good. It is in vain for me to try to find any news to fill this dull sheet, for I have not been out of Cranwich this three months. I expect to take a trip into Suffolk with my father & mother for a week or ten days, from which trip I promise much pleasure, particularly on my return, when I expect to find yourself and all your party. Cap<sup>t</sup> Langford is in this part of the world. He dines with us this week. His sister is as chatty as ever, and not likely to be married *yet*. Mr. Rolfe has got a boy, and Mrs. R. is as well as can be expected. Tell Horatia she must come and see my bird, who is now sitting on the table, and now and then on the end of the pen. He will be proud to perch on her little fingers. I have now nothing more to say to persuade you to come. Lady B. sends her best love. My mother & Susanna do the same. I beg you will give mine to both the Miss Connors. Shall be happy to see them. Kiss Horatia for myself and Emma, who is counting the days, nay, hours till she sees her, as is also your,' &c.

1007. A. L. S. from Lady Bolton to the same. Dated Cranwich, December 13th, 1810. 3 pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'I was very sorry to find from Sarah's last letter to Anne, you were unwell with a bilious attack, and I fear, from my not hearing from you, it still continues. I hope you will be recovered before you set out on your journey, which will be, I hope, in ten days, at farthest. Let me hear from you how you arrange your plans. My father, mother, and Anne went on Tuesday into Suffolk for a week.

'I hope the change will be of service to Anne. She is grown very thin since her fall from her horse. How do you go, and does the Madame Domier starve you as much? I hope if she does, you will give her a gentle hint, for I should be very sorry to see you grow any thinner than you were when I saw you in Town. Tell Horatia her cousin Emma has written two or three letters to her lately, and is impatient for an answer, as she thinks they were sent by the post. They were so long, I had not patience to copy them, but the principal part of the contents were love, kisses, and wishes for her company at Cranwich, together with a long history of what amusements they were to have, when here. She is quite as impatient to see you as her mamma. Eliza is gone to make a visit at Wells, so that our party at present is very small, only Susanna, Henry and myself. However, we continue to amuse ourselves very well with working & reading. Will you be so good as to tell Mary Arbour I desired her friends at Mundford to bring her little boy every fine Sunday, that I might see how they go on with him, but they have brought him but once. I have very little news. Mary Sharpen of Swaffham, sister to Harriet, is married to a clergyman, a very good match for her. Mary Anne Mercier who married last year a Mr. Day, has just got a little girl. Poor thing, she has got a very bad husband, so mean, he almost starves her. Eliza Yonge is to be married in the Spring. This is all the Swaffham news I have heard. Mrs. Manby expects to be confined every day. The captain is very domestic and lives very retired. Susanna unites in love to you and Horatia, & the Miss Connors. Yours,' &c.

1008. A. L. S. from Mrs. Bolton to the same. Dated Xmas Day, 1810. 1½ pages 4to.

'Shall I say I congratulate you or condole with you on the death of the poor

Duke ; I hope you will be a great *gainer* ; a loss I am sure he was to you, but we, alas, well know what the loss of friends are, but a rich sorrow better than a poor *one*. We long to hear what he has left you ; God bless you with *it*. You would smile to hear us talk of you ; Mr. Bolton wishes to have a bet on the sum ; Anne dances ; Tom says he is as nervous as my Lady to hear the contents ; Susanna says she is low for fear it should not be so much as we all wish ; as to Lady Bolton and myself, we are full of hopes that both you and Horatia will have a good legacy.

'We shall be truly happy to see you as soon as you can conveniently leave town, which I hope will be as soon after the funeral as you can ; it will change the scene at any rate, & we will endeavour to make Cranwich as cheerful as we can. Bring the Miss Connors with you, dear Horatia of course. I cannot write upon any other occasion. We all unite in kind regards, & believe me,' &c.

1009. A. L. S. from Sir H. Fetherstonhaugh to the same. Dated Up Park, December 30th, 1810. 2 $\frac{1}{4}$  pages 4to., with Superscription and Seal.

'Many thanks for your kind communication about the old Duke's will as far as you are concerned ; if you had been remembered more largely, I should have been still better pleased, but we both know him to have been a little capricious throughout. Thomas made me acquainted with his mite out of such a mass of wealth, which I trust, however, will make him comfortable, for he deserves to be. *My* intelligence announces that the K—— is not likely to *live* long ; in *his* state it seems hardly desirable that he should, & a regency, especially with restrictions, is never a *strong* government. We so often are told of our perilous situation, that I am not much alarmed. No change for the better in point of *climate* would induce me to change my native abode, for I have seen enough of other countries to feel the value of this. The utmost extent of my wishes is to *re-visit* Paris, but that liberty seems at a most frightful distance. Notwithstanding the bad weather lately, we had two ladies who attended us through all the battues here, & made an excellent fight of it through all the extremities of wet & deep ground. I don't think this would exactly suit you, but I shall have great pleasure in your taking a view of old Up Park *dans la belle saison*, when even here it may be passable. Be assured, if the *envois* of *gibier* are acceptable, & you receive them as they are *meant*, *je suis enchanté*. You never told me whether you got any venison last *summer*. Pray do in your next, as sometimes things never reach their destination, & when I know it, I take measures accordingly. *Portez-vous toujours bien*, & believe me at all times,' &c.

1010. A. L. S. from Mrs. Matcham to the same. Dated 'Tuesday night' (January 2nd, 1811). 2 pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'We rejoice most heartily that you have got the £500 per annum, which certainly is a most handsome addition to your income, but, indeed, you must not be too liberal to others. It is not so large a legacy as we could have wished, but it might have been worse, & I trust, with economy it will enable you to live comfortably. We feel so much interested, my dear Lady, in everything that concerns you, that you must forgive me if I say more on the subject of your liberal disposition than I ought to. I hope Miss Connor's legacy is secure, upon which we sincerely congratulate her. We shall think of you on Twelfth day, without being reminded of your present of a cake. I *have* ordered one from Horsham. As soon as you can make it convenient to leave town, we shall be happy to see you. If anything more should turn up in your favour, I am sure you will let us know. I tremble when I think you might have lost all. We are all well, & unite in affect<sup>te</sup> love and best wishes to you, dear Horatia, and the Miss Connor's.

'Horace begs his love to Mother Law ; he talks of you every day, and is delighted when he sees your letters come.'



1011. A. L. S. from Mrs. Bolton to the same. Dated 'Cranwich, Sunday' (January 13th, 1811). 2 $\frac{3}{4}$  pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'Your letter yesterday was indeed an agreeable surprise, for altho' I know what your goodness would endeavour to do for us, I had no idea you had set anything on foot. Now I will answer you truly. Mr. Bolton thinks at his time of life he should not be willing to be separated from his family & connections, and I would say, my wish by removal is to get nearer you & my friends. Was he to go abroad he would lose a leasehold estate, which brings him in near £200 year, therefore that is another reason. Perhaps, you will say, beggars should not be choosers. Anything you can get us in England will be very acceptable, and we shall ever remember your kindness. I am in great distress at this time about my dear Kate, who is on her road home. Mr. Bolton brought her in a post-chaise as far as Swaffham yesterday, where she was then obliged to go to bed. Her sister went to meet her in order to support her home. She is in such a weak state that she can scarce bear the motion of a carriage. She has no particular complaint but weakness. Mr. Girdlestone says if she does not get strength soon, he will not answer for her. Bath is recommended. I am now going to write to Mrs. Matcham to ask her to take her and her nurse Susanna in, or procure lodgings near her.'

1012. A. L. S. from the same to the same. No date (January 17th, 1811). 2 pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'How are you, my dear Lady—well, I hope, and comfortable? Tell Sarah Connor I rejoice with her on her legacy, which I was much pleased ; but I did hope yours would have been double, but from such an uncertain being, it is well it was so much, & long may you live to enjoy it. I hope in another month the weather & roads will be good, & we shall have the happiness of seeing you. However, come when you will, you will make us truly happy. Lady Bolton & Emma leaves us to-morrow for Brancaster, and then I fear S<sup>r</sup> W<sup>m</sup> will come for her, if his ship comes into dock for any time.

'Did you receive a turkey Mr. Bolton sent you from Norwich last Saturday week? Did you hear Lady Charlotte had miscarried, to the great disappointment of Lord Bridport.\* I know nothing of Swaffham as we seldom go there, not even to balls. Eliza is not at home, and Anne, when well, which is not often the case, do not like Swaffham balls. You say when does she marry? When they have something to make the pot boil, which, you know, is very necessary. A living of 2 or 3 hundred a year they would be content with, but where to get it is the thing. Emma often writes to her cousin Horatia and wonders the post brings no letters from her. Give our kind love to her yourself, and remember us to Miss Connor.'

1013. A. L. S. from Mr. Twiss† to the same. Dated 95 Charlotte Street, Fitzroy Square, January 20th, 1811. 5 pages 4to., with Superscription and Seal. [P.]

'I am about to make a very daring request, & therefore I ought to begin with an apology, but, as I am sure that if your kindness does not provide me with an excuse I shall find none in my own mind, I want you to do me the greatest and most serious favour in the world.

'When the last Administration came into power, Lord Erskine the Chancellor, on the application of Mrs. Siddons‡ who, you know, is my aunt, & has always

\* Samuel Hood, 2nd Baron Bridport, 1788–1868, had married Lady Charlotte Nelson in 1810.

† Horace Twiss, 1787–1849, a well-known lawyer, son of Mrs. Siddons' sister, Frances Kemble. He was called to the bar in 1811, and became a K.C. in 1827. In 1828 he was appointed Under-Secretary for the Colonies. Finding his practice at the bar rather inadequate, he accepted a post on the *Times*, which he relinquished in 1844, on being made Vice-Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster.

‡ Sarah Siddons, 1755–1831, the eminent tragic actress, who made her first appearance in London in 1775 in the character of Portia, and her last in 1812 as Lady Macbeth.

interested herself most warmly in my behalf, promised me positively that after the expiration of two years from that time he would make me a Commissioner of Bankruptcy. The place is worth from an hundred and fifty to two hundred pound a year, & to a young lawyer is further valuable, inasmuch as it introduces him to connections & practice. On the accession of the present ministers, my hopes fell, of course, to the ground, & the circumstances of my father's family, which, in consequence of several misfortunes, have been much reduced, made the disappointment particularly distressing to me.

'My poor friend, Charles Runnington, whom you may remember to have met at Mrs. Richard Wilson's, held one of these Commissionerships. He has been dead for several weeks, & yet his place has not been given away. Now I come to the favour which I am venturing to solicit from you. Lord Abercorn, I know, has great weight with the present Administration, & I apprehend that nothing would be refused to his application. Can you, without pain to yourself, intreat his Lordship's interference in my favour? I am in hopes that he would not resist a recommendation from your Ladyship.

'If you feel any reluctance, or even delicacy, about this, pray, dear Lady, burn my letter and forgive my presumption; if, on the other hand, you feel an inclination to do me this great and essential service, let me beseech you not to lose an hour in writing or speaking to the Marquis of Abercorn. I should hope that Lord Erskine's promise will be a voucher to the Lord Chancellor that I am not an improper person, & I am sure my friend Wilson, who has the honour of being well known to Lord Eldon, will give any future testimonial which his Lordship may think necessary of my character in general, and if I may venture to say so much, of my sufficiency in point of talent for the office to which I aspire. I shall be called to the bar in Easter term; it is material that the Lord Chancellor should know this, because the office is usually confined to young barristers.

'I would have waited upon you myself to make this petition, but I did not learn till to-night that the place is vacant. I am obliged to leave town early to-morrow morning. I shall be back again on the 1<sup>st</sup> of February, but if you should be able to do anything for me in the meantime, I am bold enough to flatter myself that you will not think it too much trouble to write me a few lines, directed to me at Francis Twiss's, Esqr., Camden Place, Bath. Once more, dear Lady Hamilton, forgive the liberty I am taking, & believe me always,' &c.

1014. A. L. S. from Lord Mansfield to the same. Dated 'Great Cumberland Street, Monday' (early in 1811). 2 pages 8vo.

'I hope there is this time no delay, & that the steward has paid in the quarter for your jointure, for which Mr. Greville gave him the most *positive directions*; if so, there is no doubt of Mr. Coutts letting you have it without my writing, and if it is not paid in you must write to the steward, as we have done everything towards making him pay regularly. Allow me to add, that I hope you never anticipate the quarter you *expect to become due*, so as to occasion any pressing demand, as I am afraid Mr. Coutts might think it impertinent in me to trouble him *again* on the same subject; besides that, I am sure Mr. Coutts would tell you that, in fact, it could do you no good. Excuse my saying thus much, & adding a word of advice—that you should be *cautious* not to increase your expenditure till your affairs *are settled*, or your creditors will become very troublesome from the apprehension that you will spend the legacy\* bequeathed to you, without their reaping the advantage they expect of being *first paid*. I am,' &c.

1015. A. L. S. from Miss Matcham to the same. Dated Ashfold Lodge, February 28th (1811). 1½ pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'On Sunday we received a short letter from you, in which you promised to

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\* This, no doubt, refers to the Duke of Queensberry's legacy, which, however, Lady Hamilton never received.



favor us with a longer one on Tuesday. We have every day been anxiously expecting it, but are still disappointed, and are fearful it is illness which prevents your writing, as in general you are very punctual. You will be conferring a favour on us if you will put one line in the post on receipt of this, or, if you are unable to do it yourself, we shall be obliged to any of your party to inform us of the occasion of your silence. Mama, I am happy to say, continues quite as well as we would expect, and the child is very well. I sent a letter to my aunt the same day I wrote to you, and have not received an answer yet. What the reason is we have no idea, but are fearful it either miscarried or some of the party are ill. It is now some months since any of us have had a line from them. Perhaps you can give us some information respecting them? Do let us have a line by return of post.'

1016. A. L. S. from Mrs. Bolton to the same. Dated 'Cranwich, Thursday noon,' March 1st, 1811.  $3\frac{1}{2}$  pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'Sir W<sup>m</sup> Bolton had left Norfolk before your letter arrived. We sent it down to Plymouth, but, of course, you have seen him, as he said he should call on you; therefore you have heard from him how we go on, amongst other things, that Anne has declined marrying Mr. Girdlestone. At the first she refused him, but he wished for leave to try his fortune with her, but it would not do. She is gone to Brancaster, & he is with us for a short time. In May he gives up his curacy in this part of the world. Poor Blindy went off rather suddenly. I hope she was well taken care of in her last moments. She had an old servant of Mr. Snebbury whom she had known for years. Whenever you go there or see the woman, will you procure me a small picture of poor Maurice; it is quite a daub, & of no value to anyone else. You will see we opened y<sup>r</sup> letter, when I tell you Mr. Bolton has taken your hint & written to Mr. Rose yesterday. Mr. Rose, I am sure, is our friend, but I fear [promises?] more than he can *procure*. We are equally indebted to him. You, no doubt, have heard my dear sister\* is safe in bed with a fine boy—no want of heirs to the name of Nelson, thank God! We have had a marriage at Swaffham of Eliza Yonge. All her sisters went to church with her. Sad crying wedding, but they say she is so happy. Remember the year is advancing very fast, and with the fine weather I hope you will come. We shall be truly happy to see you all. Have you [heard] Capt. Robinson, of Rotherham, is dead? We all unite in kindest love to you & dear Horatia.

'We are expecting the Taylors next week. Send us word the age of the Miss Morgan. I think fifty you told me, & our young man must please his eye as well as his pocket. Capt. Manby has got a daughter; he seems very happy.'

1017. A. L. S. from Sir William Bolton to the same. Dated Plymouth Dock, March 11th (1811). 3 pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'Richard arrived safe & sound last night. He met with a trifling misfortune on the road, owing to Mr. Newcombe's suffering the coach to set off without paying for the carriage of his luggage; I allude to his being under the necessity of borrowing a few shillings of a brother sailor to defray his way down. It seems also that he lost some money at the Mermaid Inn, where the coach stopped the first night, at about eleven o'clock, to supper. He gave the maid a pound note, out of which she was to have brought him back sixteen shillings; the coach going on in a hurry, Richard could not find the maid again before he went off. He does not know the name of the place, but I think there is an inn of that name at Hounslow; at any rate, it can easily be learnt at y<sup>e</sup> coach office in town. None of the coachmen from this place go beyond Exeter. Richard is going

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\* This sister was Mrs. Matcham, whose third son, Nelson, a barrister-at-law, was born in 1811, and died in 1886.

afloat this beautiful morning to visit his ship ; the fineness of the weather will, I think, confirm him in his predilection for the service. First impressions, your Ladyship well knows, go a great way. I look upon any assurances on my part of friendship to our young friend to be superfluous ; my long acquaintanceship with your Ladyship, & the thorough knowledge of your goodness of heart, would, independently of my admiration for the memory of our dear Lord, make me ever yours. I cannot reply to anything your Ladyship may have said in your letter, as Richard has not yet opened his trunks. I thought he had better defer doing that till he got them safe on board, and till then, your letter is in darkness. I have just heard from my mother ; she, and all my friends at Brancaster are well. Tom Bolton and my aunt are returned to Cranwich. A brigg arrived from Lisbon yesterday, after a week's passage ; an officer came in her with despatches for the Horse Guards—no news has transpired here. Dr. Beatty begs his respects to your Ladyship ; he has heard from Hardy, who, it seems, is coming home for a time on leave. I hear Captain Seymour is married to Miss Berkley. I am without other news.'

1018. Doc. S. 'Carlo Rovedino.' Dated London, May 13th, 1811.

$\frac{1}{4}$  page oblong. [P.]

'£150 os. od.'

'Two months after date, please to pay to my order One hundred and Fifty pounds for value received.

(Signed) CARLO ROVEDINO.

'Lady Hamilton, No. 16 Dover Street.'

(Endorsed) 'Accepted & payable at Messrs. Coutts & Co.

(Signed) 'EMMA HAMILTON.'

1019. Doc. S. 'Carlo Rovedino.' Dated London, May 14th, 1811.

$\frac{1}{4}$  page oblong. [P.]

'£150 os. od.'

'Two months after date, please to pay to my order One hundred and Fifty pounds for value received.

(Signed) CARLO ROVEDINO.

'Lady Hamilton, No. 16 Dover Street.'

(Endorsed) 'Accepted & payable at Messrs. Coutts & Co., Strand,

(Signed) EMMA HAMILTON.'

1020. Doc. S. 'Emma Hamilton.' Dated May 14th, 1811. 1 page folio.

A warrant of attorney to Messrs. Dixon and Leach to secure the payment of the two bills above.

1021. A. L. S. from Mr. Matcham to Lady Hamilton. Dated April 15th, 1811. 1 page 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'It is very fortunate that you applied to me at this instant ; had you applied five days ago, I had not a hundred to lend, but having received seven hundred pounds three days since to be invested in the funds for Mrs. M. & the children, Mrs. M. has consented to withhold one hundred pounds of that sum for you. I know you will repay it as soon as you can, but do not mention my having lent you any money. I wish not the trustees to be acquainted with it. The Earl & Lady Nelson, Lady Charlotte, and Mr. Hood\* are with us. Do let us see you, and Horatia, and your cousin soon. God bless you.

'Inclosed is the order on my banker. Pray write us a line on the receipt of this letter, that we may be satisfied of its safe arrival.'



1022. A. L. S. from Miss Anne N. Bolton to the same. Dated Wells, June 17th, 1811. 3 pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'You will, I hope, excuse my troubling her with this, but not hearing from you for more than a month since, I was fearful you had quite forgot me. I was certain you had not been ill, as my mother had heard from you. It gave me great pleasure to find from her that you intend coming to Cranwich this month. If you could for one moment fancy the pleasure you will give us all, myself in particular, I am convinced you would not this time put off this so long promised visit. I must now beg you will favour me with a letter soon. I shall be quite satisfied if you only say you shall come down soon, and that you will not put it off. I long very much to see dear Horatia; hope she has not forgot her cousin Anne, who is, I must tell, very full of courage. I was seized, on Saturday evening, with a very bad toothache, which I thought I might avoid by having it out, so up I go to my aunt and say to her, "Aunt, I will have this tooth out." She looks at me with wonder. I then said, "Aunt, will you hold my head for me?" She hummed and hah'd, and said she thought it might be in my face, and that I had "better stop till the next day," to which I agreed; but, however, it still ached, and so it did all that night. So the next morning I again said I would have it out, and at last she made up her mind to send for the doctor. He came. I sat down in a moment, and it was out in a minute; it broke a little, which gave me a good sharp twinge. He said he thought I had great courage. I found out afterwards that my aunt was too nervous the night before. She was fearful I should faint, but I was a little better than that, though not much. You see how ready we are to write in our own praise, but you must excuse me, as the gum is not yet healed, and I promise you shall not hear any more of it this time. I find by the papers that the Prince is going to give a grand *fête*. Hope you will write me a full account, and soon, as I shall go to the post every day till I hear from you. I also hope you will mention some day for your coming into Norfolk. I before told you with what pleasure I shall go to meet you. The country—even this charming county—is now pleasant. I suppose you have heard that we leave Cranwich this year. We have not yet heard of a house; hope we soon shall, as I fear my poor mother will not be happy till then, except, indeed, you come and cheer her a little. I had, the other day, a few lines from Emma; she writes very well when you come to consider she has only begun this last two months. I must say I did not expect to see her writing so soon. How pleased she will be to see Horatia; she used often to talk to me about her, and tell me what fun they used to have in bed of a morning. Do you remember Mrs. Bloom, of this place? She is in a very bad way indeed. She has been at Death's door for some time. This is an unhealthy place. Miss Smith, whom you remember seeing here, is now returned from a visit in ill-health. Eliza is now at Brancaster; all the rest of the family are at home. George Matcham has been to Cranwich; what a wonder! Mrs. Peirson was looking out for a letter from you when I left Brancaster, which was five weeks ago. Pray write to me first, as this is my second letter, and I have written a very long one. True, very little in it, but that is not my fault, as I would write news if I could get any. I only wish you, my dear Lady, would have as good an inclination to write as I have. Pray give my love to the Linds if you see them. My aunt and Anne beg to be kindly remembered to you and Horatia, to whom pray give a kiss for me; hope I shall soon be able to give it myself. I must now beg Horatia will give one to you for me, who hopes you will ever consider her as, yours,' &c.

1023. 821. A. L. S. from Mrs. Bolton to the same. Dated July 17th (1811). 1 page 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'The enclosed letter from Mr. Girdlestone was received this morning. Anne is arrived at home in order to meet you, but am sorry to say by no means well; her side is very troublesome, but I hope your company will cheer us all. We have not yet found a situation to our mind. Sophia Langford has been staying with us for the last fortnight; plenty of chat you may be sure. Cap<sup>t</sup> Langford not got a ship yet. I hope your engagements are nearly at an end, and that we

shall soon meet. Mrs. Cordran has just got a fine little girl. Emma is delighted with the thoughts of seeing Horatia. All this party join in kind love to you.'

1024. A. L. S. from Cecilia Connor to the same. Dated Manly Place, Kensington Common, July 26th (1811). 3 pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'I take the liberty once more to address your Ladyship concerning the sum of thirty guineas for teaching Miss Horatia Nelson, for which I had a voucher signed by your Ladyship.

'I merely mention this latter circumstance as a proof of your Ladyship's acknowledgements—by no means upon the ground of dispute, but as my qualification of appeal to your Ladyship in the present instance. My future wellfare constrains me to renew the solicitation, having a situation of advantage submitted to me which I must be compelled, with grief, to resign unless your Ladyship supports my views by affording me, on account, the sum of ten pounds between this & next Monday—the time limited to consider the proposal.

'This is the last resource I have. Being denied a character from your Ladyship, obliges me to give up the thought of applying any longer for a preparatory governess, which I had the honor of attending on dear Horatia. Excuse, dear Lady Hamilton, this familiar term, but it is what I most sincerely feel for you both. Could I forget for a moment the many obligations me and my family owe to your Ladyship, I hope God will forget me, and He is now the only friend I have.

'Time will bring forth everything, & then I think your Ladyship will find you have been misinformed in many circumstances concerning me. Let me, dear Lady Hamilton, intreat a favourable answer, as it will release my mind greatly. Would that it could relieve my heart from the sorrow that I feel at being deprived of a friend & guardian like you !'

1025. A. L. S. from Mr. T. Coxe to the same. Dated Clarence Place, September 18th, 1811. 3 pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'Your attention and kindness to me at Brighton and Ashford Lodge is not only the continuance of favour shown at Naples and Sicily, but so flattering that I fear for myself lest unable to discharge so many debts. I may be ranked among many you have met with as bankrupt in gratitude. The warmest wishes are present for your health, happiness, and honor, to contribute to either of which how glad should I be if the ability was equal to the desire.

'I pray God's blessing on your charming charge, and trust she will repay your maternal care and attention with filial piety and love.

'Your message to Mrs. Cowell and Lady Perrin I delivered to the former, from whom, and Mr. C., I had, during my absence, received a venison dinner invitation. The Pam ticket at Walker's I prayed Mrs. Cowell to enquire after. *Entre nous*, I have made a sad hole in my manners, nor do I deserve forgiveness. Yesterday they did me the honour of a call, and tho' Mrs. Cowell was to leave in the evening, I did not admit them ; nay, worse, went out in my *robe de chambre*, and inhospitably and ungratefully drove them from my door. My Mrs. uppermost had used me sadly, and continued to derange me to the utmost of her spiteful ability. Now, will you, dear Lady H., for your own credit sake (as you recommend me), strive to heal the breach. Charity is your characteristic, and prudence here requires it. Your friend was married on Saturday, and after breakfast they stept into a coach and four with white favours, *doppo correvano due poste e quando avevano pranzate correvano due altre poste*, in ritorno a Brighton, dove cenate, lasciamo felicissima notte riposare in letto, si non poco perturbate pensando a la cometa e sua coda magnifica. Mr. Prischell desires his best respects ; he talks of Cheltenham and Harrogate, and many are the enquiries after the splendid meteor that so lately cast its brilliant light on this place, and suddenly disappeared, to the regret of all. When will it appear again ? is the general question. Excuse this paper and packthread, and which my sight w<sup>d</sup> render troublesome to correct or write over again. And with a kiss to Horatia, believe me, dear Lady H., much yours,' &c.



1026. A. L. S. from Mrs. Pierson to the same with A. L. S. attached from Mrs. Bolton to the same. Dated Cranwich, September 18th, 1811. 3½ pages with Superscription.

'If it is true, as I am told, that you were hurt at not receiving a letter from me during your visit here, I am sorry I did not write, for I was experiencing so painful a sensation at the idea of being neglected by you, that I should rather have overlooked your long silence than have given you such a one. I am far from saying this in a spirit of recrimination; I really did not imagine you could expect a letter from me at such a moment of distress as Caroline's illness occasioned me, and I was in expectation of a line of congratulation from you at her recovery. It was not till my arrival here that I gave up my hopes of seeing you, as I flattered myself you would have been prevailed on to lengthen your visit for a few days, and I came here as soon as Caroline could be removed, which was not ten days after your departure. Poor Anne has been ill and confined to her bed ever since I came; her complaint is highly nervous and hysterical. The last three days she has been able to sit up a few hours, but she is still in so weak a state as scarcely to be able to go across the room. She knows I am writing to you, and sends her best love to you and Horatia, and is sorry she is unable to write to you. I hope she will soon get into the air again, as I (think) that will more conduce to her restoration than all the medicine she takes, which is no small quantity. Becca is returned from her excursion improved in health, she says, but looking wretchedly thin. She returns with me to Brancaster to-morrow sennight; perhaps, before that time I shall have the pleasure of hearing from you. I am sorry I shall be in town at the time you intend visiting Braddenham, as I should have been happy to have been of the wedding party. Henry has taken a house at Litcham of Major Wilson; it was his hunting box and is ready furnished, which is a pleasant thing for them, & what is still better, it is only seven miles from Braddenham. I have not seen either of the new habitations, Anne has been so ill I would not leave her a day. Henry has been at an auction the two last days, and has made some good purchases.

'We have been high busy packing up ever since I arrived. They tell me there is much wanted to be done to make Braddenham fit for their reception, but nothing is yet begun to be done. We heard from Sir William so late as the 2<sup>d</sup> of this month. He was in excellent health & spirits, and expected to sail in the evening; he hopes to be relieved from his disagreeable station after his cruize. Unfortunately, Admiral Thornborough has a scarcity of frigates. I hear Horatia is as amiable as ever; give her a kiss & love from Caroline & me. I think bust an excellent likeness and very well done. I heard from Brancaster yesterday, my father is better for the exercise of shooting. Tom has been particularly successful this season; he remains at Brancaster till the bustle of removing is over. I have scribbled you all the news I can afford you, and shall hope for some from you in return. Be assured of my sincere affection and that I remain,' &c.

(LETTER FROM MRS. BOLTON.)

'I am requested by Mr. Bolton to inform you that he has seen Bob. Nelson & has seen an account of his debts. He has advanced him one hundred p<sup>ds</sup>, & as you kindly promised to do something for him, if you could do the same it would raise a deserving man from distress & enable him to get forward in the world. You, I hope, would one day get repaid in money as well as thanks. It is needless to *urge* you, who are always willing to assist the distressed, as to recollect this man, had my dear brother been living, would never have wanted a friend. To add more is unnecessary *to you*. Mrs. Pierson has told you of all the invalids of this family. Hope all will be well to receive you at Xmas. Believe me,' &c.

1027. A. L. S. from Sir R. Puleston\* to the same. Dated Emral, Wrexham, September 25th, 1811. 4 pages 4to. [P.]

'It is impossible to express how very much obliged I feel by your Ladyship's

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\* Sir Richard Price Puleston, 1765-1840, only son of F. R. Price, Esq., and Miss Anne Puleston. He inherited the estates of his mother's family, assumed the name of Puleston (according to Burke) in 1812, and was created a Baronet in 1813.

kind and flattering reply. Believe me, I take a warm interest in your welfare, and am really shocked and ashamed of the conduct of Government towards one to whom they must know & feel themselves so much indebted for her eminent services to one of our most successful fleets commanded by the most illustrious of our naval heroes, whose name ought, & will—nay, must—be ever dear to all who love their country. I feel I am getting astride my hobby horse now, for it is a subject on which I am absolutely an enthusiast, having been a sailor myself in my very early days under the late Lord Mulgrave,\* of whose name I rejoice to see our immortal Nelson speaks so highly. It is now time to dismount, lest you should think me too far gone.

‘Many thousand thanks for your kind invitation to your *fairy palace* in Bond Street, where I shall be most happy to pay my earliest respects when I get to town, but that, I grieve to think, will scarcely be before the spring. How soon do you return there? I presume to ask this question in case any unforeseen event should take me up sooner than I intend at present.

‘How delighted I shall be next year to escort you & ramble with you over your almost native mountains, & to tell you, which is true, *that we have met before*, but it is many years since, & the impression you then made, tho’ I had not the happiness of your acquaintance much as I then wished for it. I most truly & sincerely wish you a speedy & decisive victory over your present disagreement & that your enemies, such you have, may turn their hearts; in short, that all the world may as sensibly feel your merits as I do, & as sincerely wish you well.

‘Whenever you have leisure & inclination to throw away ten minutes it will ever delight me to hear from you.’

1028. A. L. S. from Mr. Thomas Bolton to the same. Dated Bradenham, November 22nd, 1811. 1 page 4to., with Superscription.  
[P.]

‘By to-day’s coach, which sets up at the White Horse, Fetter Lane, I am happy to inform you we have sent a basket of game, which contains two brace of birds, a pheasant, & also a hare, which we could not anyhow get into the basket. *Should you ever* wish me to send any game to any of your acquaintances, I shall always have great pleasure in sending it. My father desires me to give his love, & says he hopes you will make one of the family on his birthday, the eleventh of December. Poor Anne is now tormented with the toothache, sends her love, and hopes to be able to write to you on Sunday. The chintz is not yet arrived at Bradenham, but, as Cordran goes to Swaffham to-day, expect he will find it at Mrs. Woor’s. Emma is every day wishing for her cousin Horatia’s arrival, sends her love, and wishes the day was arrived. All unite with me in love to Horatia & yourself.’

1029. A. L. S. from Miss Anne N. Bolton to the same. Dated Bradenham, November 24th, 1811. 2 pages 4to., with Superscription.

‘I have enquired of my father, as you requested, about the road from Barton Mills, which is as follows: From Barton Mills to Thetford (the George Inn), from that to the *George Inn* at Wotton, from Wotton to Bradenham Hall. Your things you must send by the same coaches and waggons as you used to do when we lived at Cranwich, directed Thos. Bolton, Bradenham, near Shipdham, Norfolk, to be left at Swaffham. I hope I have now given you a full & true account of the roads and coaches. I am sorry to inform you that our man did go to Mrs. Woor and that she had not received any parcel from London. We suppose the people you desired to send it forgot it. I hope you will not forget your promise of the 8th of next month, as we are all of us wishing for your company. My dear cousin Horatia I am sure will remind you of it, as I flatter my selfe

\* Constantine John Phipps, 1st Baron Mulgrave, 1746–1792. A Captain in the Navy, who afterwards filled several high official posts, and was created a peer in 1790. His *Voyage to the North Pole* was published in 1775.



she will be as happy to see us as we shall her. Emma is often talking about her and wishing for her. You have by this time received Tom's letter, and my father's message to you, which I hope you will comply with. You must case yourself in flannel before you come here. I can assure you it is *very cold indeed*, though we keep good fires, as you know to your cost, for I fear we often burnt you out. Tom told you how I was tormented with the toothache ; I have had it ever since, and am now enduring that agreeable pain, so if my letter is stupid, you must think it is *that nasty tooth*. You will, I think, now say that I mostly have some ache or pain when I write to you. How so? Because your letters are always the same. So you must only be a little indulgent ; try to read them ; when you have done give a good stretch, and throw it into the fire. When you favoured us with your company last at Cranwich, you remember meeting the Miss Woodhops ; they are invited to come to the wedding. You offered to bring Sarah down with you, for which she felt very grateful, & accepted it in case she *could* come, and if you come down in your coach, which you talked then of doing. We heard from her yesterday ; she mentioned her having hopes of getting leave, and wishing to know if you could favour her with a place in your coach. If you can, I hope you will write me word, as she will not ask leave to come till she hears from you, for coming by the coach is so very expensive that it is more than she can spare out of the small sum she has per year. I shall hope to hear from you this week. *My father, mother, sisters, and brother*, not forgetting Emma, desire me to give their loves to you & Horatia, and hope soon to see you both at Bradenham. God bless you both, my dear Lady, and may you ever bee in health & happy is the sincere wish of, &c.'

1030. A. L. S. from Sir H. Fetherstonhaugh to the same. Dated 'Sunday' (December, 1811). 4 pages 4to. [P.]

'I hope you received my last *envoi* in due time for the purpose, & that you will also find half-a-dozen. I have directed to be sent not much amiss. This more substantial form of correspondence is better than any stupid letters I could send you from hence, where my life is so uniform, & can afford but little of interest to others ; but you will be glad to hear that I am *bien portant*, enjoying the amusements & resources of a place to which I have always been so partial, without one wish to see more of the *grand monde* than *comes to me*. I have had a pretty good taste of it in my time, & I flatter myself not without fully appreciating its value. You have been a long while silent, which I regret, as I am always happy to hear what is doing & where you are. Notwithstanding all your partiality for a warm climate, Sicily would hardly be a pleasant *séjour* just now. What are you going to do, and what is the real state of facts, for I conclude you still have high correspondence there? After the finest weather I ever remember at this season of the year for three weeks, we are now in a constant hurricane, which will last till some hard frost sets in. I conclude you are now fixed in London for what is called the season, and enjoying the society of a few you like, which is more to the purpose than all the *grand* & heterogeneous compositions which many are condemned to. I had promised a visit to Paget at Beaudesert this time, but when it comes to the point I cannot leave the comforts of home for so long a winter journey, so have sent my excuses, & shall be stationary here, at 57 *il n'y a pas grand mal de se tenir tranquille*. I suppose you see a good deal of the Duchess of Devonshire. The young Duke\* has a pretty good game before him if he plays it well. What do you think of him? If you feel so disposed, you can not fail to write something interesting or amusing at least from London, so I shall expect the pleasure of a billet now and then.'

1031. A. L. S. from Miss Anne N. Bolton to the same. Dated Bradenham, December 8th, 1811. 3 pages 4to., with Superscription.

'We felt very *much disappointed* to find you could not be here on my father's

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\* William Spencer, 6th Duke of Devonshire, 1790-1858, eldest son of the 5th Duke, whom he succeeded in July, 1811.

birthday. I fear the snow alarmed you ; but you need not fear the Norfolk roads, for they are known to be good, and there is a coach comes from London every day, therefore the road is never stopped up. My father says it is a good road all the way. You will come from Wotton to Shipdham, from that to Bradenham. I [hope] you will not give us such another disappointment, as we shall be quite done up. We had a letter from Miss Woodhorp yesterday ; she intends calling upon you before she leaves town. Pray give all our loves to Horatia ; tell her we shall look out for you & her the middle of this week. Hope you will not fail in your promise this time. Believe me,' &c.

'P.S.—My mother sends her love ; she hopes to see you *very soon*. My father sends his love also ; he says you must come soon.'

1032. A. L. S. from Sir Richard Puleston to the same. Dated Emral, Wrexham, December 16th (1811). 3 pages 4to., with Superscription and Seal. [P.]

'Many thanks to you, dear Lady Hamilton, for your kind letter. Believe me, it ever gives me sincere pleasure to be honoured by your correspondence, and trust me when I say it is impossible that any one can take a warmer interest in your welfare than I do. I really look upon you as a national blessing, and shame fall on those who have so cruelly neglected to recompense your highly eminent services. The ever-glorious Nelson has taught me to estimate your merits, and I feel, as one among millions, your bequeathed Guardian and Protector. Would I had the power, as I have the wish, to serve you. I am really grieved, tho' not surprised, that you, who have so long enjoyed the heavenly climate of Italy, should be doomed to feel the wintry rigours of this ungenial clime, especially the thick and spirit-depressing atmosphere of London. You say you envy me the clear, salubrious air of our mountains. Then why not come and breathe its freshness? for though it bites, it invigorates, and there is no demon in its tooth. If I thought there was a probability of succeeding I would say much more on the subject, nay, I would come and enforce it with what little eloquence I possess ; the subject would inspire you with more than my usual share. I have taken the liberty to send you and your inestimable charge a trifling Salopian *régale*. Regard it as an humble offering of friendship and gratitude, and tho' you may laugh at, do not despise the donation, for the donor's sake, who is, and ever will be, sincerely and affect<sup>ly</sup> yours,' &c.

1033. A. L. S. from Lady Hamilton to Mrs. Jewett. No date (1812). 2 pages 8vo., with Superscription. [P.]

'Do, my dear M<sup>rs</sup> Jewett, ease my mind about my dear M<sup>rs</sup> Russell. I write from bed, as I am not very well, or should have been with you this morning. I have not slept for thinking of the sufferings of this incomparable woman. Pray, pray write me a line, and give my love to her & M<sup>r</sup> Russell. You shall see either me or some of my family to-day. God bless you and yours, prays your,' &c.

'How delighted they were on Sunday with His Royal Highness, and how well he was. If Russell is at home, tell him to write me a line.'

1034. A. L. S. from Sir William Bolton to Lady Hamilton. Dated Plymouth, January 19th, 1812. 3 pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'Many, many thanks for your kindness in asking the Duke of Sussex to interest himself for poor Horace. You will excuse my troubling you again on the subject, but as there are studentships endowed by Mr. Tancred, of different kinds, and at different colleges, I beg you to remark that it is a *medical* studentship at Caius College that I wish to obtain. I ought to make you acquainted with the prospect of affairs. Lord Hood you are acquainted, has promised condition-



ally, that is, if present at the time. Dr Davy,\* to whom application was made for me by Mr. Cohn, answered that he was engaged to two young gentlemen, but as he had great reason to suppose he should not be called upon by them, he would have the greatest pleasure in voting for his friend; Dr Fisher, the Master of y<sup>e</sup> Charter House is engaged for the two next vacancies at Caius; therefore these now remain: the Governor of Chelsea, the President of the College of Physicians, and the Treasurer of Lincoln's Inn, whose name I have not yet been able to learn, and Dr. Brown, the Master of Christ's College. If by any means you can ensure an early application to any of these gentlemen, that is, any that live in London, I shall be obliged, as now the thing is broached, unless it is followed up with others, it will be a considerable hazard that those who may be upon a similar pursuit may be beforehand, & engage the votes. Your Ladyship will excuse the earnestness with which I write in favour of a son. If the Duke of York dislikes to ask perhaps an early application in any other manner, if immediately made, may have greater effect than even a tardy one of so great force. It is very frequently a first application is successful.'

1035. A. L. S. from Mr. Matcham to the same. Dated February 23rd, 1812.  $1\frac{1}{4}$  pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'I have this moment received a letter from Dr Lawrence urging me to lose no time in desiring you to speak to Mr Rose. Dr Lawrence lives at N<sup>o</sup> 5 Junction Place, Harrow Road. Pray write a line to him to see him as soon as you can. The Dr wishes you to give him a note for Mr Rose; he will explain to you the business. I believe you are not acquainted with Mr York, but Mr Rose will perhaps give the Dr a note to him. On referring to the Dr's letter, I find he says he will call on you on Tuesday at 2 o'clock. I hope you can make it convenient to see him.

'Kitty will write to you in two or three days. I was so anxious to communicate my friend's intention of calling on you that I would not wait. If you wish for country air, will you not bring Horatia down? Our rooms are disengaged. God bless you both is the wish of us all.

'Pray write me a line as soon as you have seen the Dr.'

1036. A. L. S. from the same to the same. Dated February 28th, 1812.  $1\frac{1}{2}$  pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'The Doctor writes me you have interested yourself in writing to Mr Rose to procure him an interview. I have no wish for any pecuniary remuneration, but I have the pride of claiming the merit of the first suggestion. Do pray send me a line when you have procured Mr Rose's permission.

'The natural small-pox prevails at Handcross. We are therefore going to inoculate our younger children on Monday or Tuesday next, but hope the previous vaccination will secure them; but you know there is not an universal reliance on it.

'If the small-pox doth not take on our children, cannot you and Horatia come to us for a little change of air? The Bay is not half finished, but you may judge from its present appearance of the ultimate effect. We flatter ourselves it will be a great additional beauty. Had I been aware of the time and expense I should never have dared to undertake it. Still, I look upon as increasing the value of the farm. God bless you both is our ardent wish.'

1037. A. L. S. from the same to the same. Dated March 5th, 1812.  $1\frac{1}{2}$  pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'My friend Dr Lawrence writes me I ought to lose no time, but I fear I have requested of you what might not be altogether pleasant. Do pray let me know if you think I should better apply to some gentleman who may be acquainted with

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\* Martin Davy, 1763-1839, a physician and master of Caius College, Cambridge. He took orders in 1811, and became prebendary of Chichester.

Mr. Rose. I really should be very sorry to put you to the least inconvenience, or rather to require you to do what you may think had better have been committed to the attention of some gentleman. Your acquaintance with Mr. Rose, and his kind attention to our family, was my motive for applying to you. Let me beg of you to write me a line by return of post if you think my application should be elsewhere. I know the kindness of your heart, and I shall certainly be sorry if there is the least impropriety in what I have requested; but do not, my dear lady, omit writing me *one line by return of post*, as any delay would be bad, & I have in view another person who I think would be the means of obtaining an interview with the doctor.

‘We are all well, & unite in best love to you and dear Horatia.’

1038. A. L. S. from Mrs. and Miss Matcham to the same. Dated ‘Thursday morning’ (August 6th, 1812). 3 pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

‘The reason you have not heard from us is that we have been expecting to hear how you have arranged your summer excursion, & that you would fix the time for coming to us. Next week the Earl coming for a few days; after that we expect Mrs. Lawrence & her daughters, but I suppose their stay will not be long. When they have left us we shall expect the happiness of seeing you and dear Horatia. Do let me know your plans by George, who is passing through London on his return home. We are looking forward with much pleasure to seeing you both, & *long* to hear of all your proceedings. God grant they may turn out as well as we wish them. The idle girl Kate shall write & answer for herself, only attribute our not writing to anything but want of affection towards you and dear Horatia, to whom pray give our best love, and accept the same.’

(FROM MISS MATCHAM.)

‘We are looking forward with great pleasure to our annual meeting at Ashfold, and hope it is now drawing very near when we shall talk over the occurrences of the year. I am sorry to give you the information of a turnpike being placed in the middle of Handcross Lane, which is a great annoyance. Tell Horatia Gen<sup>l</sup> Blake has been down, and still exhibits the fashionable hat. I hope, my dear Lady, to have some lessons in singing from you, and if you have any new songs or *pretty* EASY tunes for the harp, ask Horatia to make a collection for me, as I have not had any this year waiting for you. We hope the fine weather is only waiting for your arrival to show the beauties of Ashfold. I read a letter from Lady Bolton a short time ago. They appear to be very gay in Norfolk. She was then at Brancaster. Tom & Sir W<sup>m</sup> were going to the Swaffham races. He & my aunt intended going to a few plays. Mr. Bolton has bought a farm, which occupies him from morning to night, so that I hope he is recovered from the rheumatism. Let me have a letter from you soon. With our united love to Horatia.’

1039. A. L. S. from Miss Matcham to the same. Dated ‘Sunday night’ (August 23rd, 1812). 1 $\frac{3}{4}$  pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

‘You would have heard from me before this had I not wished to defer writing till our house was once more free from visitors, which is now the case. The Earl left on Saturday week, and returned to his lady in town. Since his departure we have received a letter from Mrs. Lawrence declining visiting Ashfold for the present; I am therefore commissioned, both by papa & mama, to say they shall be most happy to see Horatia & yourself as soon as it is convenient. There is a lady who has promised to come this autumn, but they will not write to her till after we have had the pleasure of your company. I shall reserve all the news for our evenings’ amusement. The children are looking forward to the time when Horatia will form one of their party with great joy. The country is now very pleasant, and I hope the sun will shine upon us when you come, for it has been a great stranger all the summer. We shall be happy to have a line as soon as you can fix your plans.

‘In the meantime, with our united love to Horatia.’



1040. A. L. S. from the same to the same. Dated Ashfold Lodge, September 8th, 1812. 1 page 4to., with Superscription and Seal. [P.]

'We have been anxiously expecting to have a line from you every day, & began to be fearful it is indisposition which prevents you writing. We were in hopes you would have been at Ashfold by this time, as the partridge season is arrived. I am desir'd to request *one line*, letting us know how you are, & when we may expect to have the pleasure of seeing yourself & Horatia here. All unite in best love.'

1041. A. L. S. from the same to the same. Dated 'Friday night' (January 1st, 1813).

'We are sorry to find our dear Horatia has had the whooping-cough so severely; but I trust the worst is over. The best thing you can do for her is to change the air. Come down to us, where you will be quiet and, I hope, happy. As to medical advice, I do not think it necessary in this complaint. We have not even applied to our Apothecary. Susanna had it bad. We took her one day to Horsham, and we found the ride gave a turn to the disorder, for the cough has not been so violent since. They are all now, thank God, quite well, except with violent exercise they sometimes have a fit of coughing. I am glad to find you are bringing your affairs to a conclusion. I need not say that none of your friends will rejoice more than we shall to hear that they turn out to your satisfaction. Do, my dear Lady, let us hear from you soon; we are very anxious to know how our dear little girl is, to whom we all beg our love, and not forgetting to wish her and you many, many happy returns of this season, likewise our best wishes to Miss Weatley.'

1042. A. L. S. from Lady Hamilton to James Perry.\* Dated 12 Temple Place, January 3rd, 1813. 2¼ pages 4to., with Superscription and Seal.

'Will you have the goodness to see my old Dame Francis, as you was so good to say to me once at any time for the present existing and unhappy circumstances you wou'd befriend me, & if you cou'd, at your conveneance, call on me to aid me by your advice as before? My friends come to town to-morrow for the season, when I must see what can be done, so that I shall not remain here, for I am so truly unhappy & wretched, & have been ill ever since I had the pleasure of seeing you on dear Horatia's birthday,† that I have not had either spirits or energy to write to you. You that loved Sir William & Nelson, & feel that I have deserved from my country some tribute of remuneration, will aid by your counsel your ever affectionate and gratefull,' &c.

1043. A. L. S. from the same to the Abbé Campbell. Dated 'Ten o'clock' (1813). 2½ pages 4to., with Superscription.

'Perhaps, my dear friend, you have done right in going away without saying good-bye; but my heart feils much more than you think it does. You was beloved and honor'd by my husband, Nelson, & myself; knew me in all my former splendours; you I look on as a dear, dear friend and relation. You are going amongst friends who love you; but rest assured none reveres you nor loves more than your ever,' &c.

'P.S.—Poor Horatia was so broken-hearted at not seeing you. Tell dear Mr. Tegart to call on me, for I do indeed feil truly forlorn and friendless. God bless you, as glorious Nelson said. Amen, amen, amen.'

\* James Perry, 1756-1811, a London journalist of Scotch birth, who came to London in 1777, and eventually became sole editor and proprietor of the *Morning Chronicle*.

† See Letter No. 1004, where the date of Horatia's birth is also wrongly given.

1044. A. L. S. from Mrs. Matcham to Lady Hamilton. Dated 'Monday night,' January 25th, 1813. 3 pages 4to., with Superscription and Seal.

'Your letter has made us very uneasy respecting the health of our dear Horatia. God grant she is still doing well; this is very severe weather, and we have nothing but coughing all over the house. My good man is far from well; his cough is very bad. Do give our best love to our dear girl, and tell her we hope, as soon as the doctors will allow her to change the air, her uncle will go in the coach as far as Reigate, take a postchaise from thence, which will give our horses time to rest, and she will be at Ashfold Lodge before dark. I need not say, my dear Lady, what happiness it would be to us to see you with her, but if you cannot manage to come, we will endeavour to supply your place. You know she is one of our children, & while we have a loaf for them she shall share it, & with it our best affections. We have a fine snow scene, & not able to stir out of the house either in the carriage or on foot; not a soul has been near us for 3 weeks. I was to have had a little dance on Twelfthday, and had prepared my Ballroom, which was my two nurserys, & Mrs. Nelson was to have been sent into another room; but, alas! the snow prevented all our mirth, and it ended in the delight of Mrs. Knowlys' company & her sons. Tell Horatia we shall reserve all the balls for Mother Law to preside at. The potatoes are at the Elephant & Castle, directed to you, & to be left till called for; they are packed in two hampers, and sent by Knowlys' waggon from Handcross the 3. of January. Do send as soon as you receive this; as soon as the frost is gone, more shall be sent. We shall be glad to get a line from you; our anxiety is great about both. May God bless you is our prayer.'

1045. Document. No date (March, 1813.) 4 pages folio. [P.]

\* 'The Memorial of Dame Emma Hamilton, widow of his Excellency, the late Sir William Hamilton, K.B., your Majesty's most faithful Ambassador at the Court of Naples.

'Humbly sheweth,

'That her late husband, Sir William Hamilton, in his liberal and munificent discharge of his honourable duties of that elevated situation, to which he was exalted by the goodness of your most gracious Majesty, had so considerably encumbered his private fortune that he was incapable of making a sufficient provision for your Majesty's Memorialist to maintain, after his decease, the rank to which he had indulgently raised her, and which it was her constant study as much as possible to merit, by anxiously entering into all her husband's zealous and enlarged views of diplomatic devotion to the true interests of our dear country, and the beloved Sovereign who had thus benignantly vouchsafed to honour him.

'That it was the good fortune of your Majesty's Memorialist to acquire the confidential friendship of that great and august Princess, the Queen of Naples, your Majesty's most faithful and ardently attached Ally, at a period of peculiar peril, and when her august Consort, the Sovereign of the Two Sicilies, was unhappily constrained to profess a neutrality but little accordant with the feelings of his own excellent heart: by which means your Majesty's Memorialist, among many inferior services, had an opportunity of obtaining, and actually did obtain, the King of Spain's letter to the King of Naples, expressive of his intention to declare war against England. This important document your Majesty's Memorialist delivered to her husband, Sir William Hamilton, who immediately transmitted it to your Majesty's Ministers.

'That your Majesty's Memorialist, on a subsequent occasion, by means of the same confidential communication with that great and good woman, the Queen of Naples, had the unspeakable felicity of procuring a secret order for victualling and watering, at the port of Syracuse, the fleet of your most gracious Majesty, under the command of Admiral Nelson; by which means, that heroic man, the pride

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\* No attention was ever paid to this petition.



and glory of his King and country, was enabled to proceed the second time for Egypt, with a promptness and celerity which certainly hastened the glorious Battle of the Nile, and occasioned his good and grateful heart to admit your humble Memorialist, as well as the Queen of Naples, to a participation in the honour of that important victory.

‘That during the long blockade of Malta, your Majesty’s humble Memorialist is well known, by all Europe, to have contributed her best assistance, as well as influence, in furnishing and procuring various necessities for the distressed natives, that they might thus be animated and encouraged to resist as well the artifices as the arms of the enemy, and thereby prevent that important fortress from fatally falling under the entire domination of the French: services with which the Emperor of all the Russias, as your Majesty’s Ally, and Grand Master of Malta, was so perfectly satisfied, that he actually transmitted to your Majesty’s humble Memorialist, soon after the surrender of that island, the title and insignia of Lady of Malta, of the honourable order of the Petit Croix, accompanied by a cross of that order, and a very flattering letter signed by his Imperial Majesty’s own hand.

‘That, in short, your Majesty’s Memorialist, on all occasions—of which she possesses innumerable proofs, under the hands of Sovereign Powers in amity with your Majesty, as well as of the most exalted public and private characters of the age—has endeavoured to merit the regard of her King and country, by fostering every principle which might tend to promote their honour and welfare, as far as it was possible for her influence to accomplish this primary desire of her heart. In the Royal British Navy, your Majesty’s Memorialist humbly presumes, where sincerity as well as valour is always pre-eminently found, the zeal and attachments to its glory which she has at all times peculiarly manifested, is a theme on which it may not become your Majesty’s Memorialist to enlarge, but which many of the most illustrious characters by whom it has ever been graced, your Memorialist may be permitted proudly to assert, have generously acknowledged, promulged, and applauded, in every part of the world where the British flag is triumphantly borne.

‘That the solemn recognition of such services, by that immortal man, the late Lord Viscount Nelson, and his pathetic call for their kind remuneration, at the moment when he was about to commence his last and fatal conflict with the enemies of his King and country, in whose battle, at the moment of victory, he so gloriously fell, bequeathing to the generosity of your Majesty and his country the future fortunes of your humble Memorialist, must afford an everlasting proof that she is not altogether unworthy of being enabled, by the condescending bounty of your Majesty, with the generous concurrence of her country, to maintain that rank and dignity which she derived from the affections of a beloved husband, and which, it is humbly presumed, your Majesty’s Memorialist has not, in any single instance, ever disgraced or abused.

‘And your Majesty’s most humble Memorialist, as in duty she is bound to do, shall ever ardently pray,’ &c.

1046. Doc. S. ‘Emma Hamilton.’ No date (March, 1813). 23 pages folio.

‘In September, 1791, I went with my husband thro’ France to Naples. At Paris I waited on the Queen, then at the Thuilleries, who entrusted me with the last letter she wrote to her sister, the Queen of Naples, this led to an ascendancy in Her Majesty’s esteem that I never after fail’d to exert in favor of every British Interest.

‘In the year 1793, when Lord Hood had taken possession of Toulon, and Sir John Jervis was employ’d upon the reduction of Corsica, the latter kept writing to me for everything he wanted, which I procur’d to be promptly provided him; and as his letters to me prove had considerably facilitated the reduction of that island. I had by this time the King induced thro’ my influence with the Queen, to become so zealous in the good cause that both would often say, “I had de-Bourboniz’d them and made them all English.”

'By unceasing cultivation of this influence, and no less watchfulness to turn it to my country's good, it happen'd that I discover'd a courier had brought the King of Naples a private letter from the King of Spain; I prevail'd on the Queen to take it from his pocket unseen; we found it to contain the King of Spain's resolution to withdraw from the Coalition, and join the French against England. My husband at this time lay dangerously ill; I prevail'd on the Queen to allow my taking a copy, with which I immediately dispatch'd a messenger to my Lord Grenville, taking all the necessary precautions; for his safe arrival then became very difficult, and altogether cost me about 400*l.* paid out of my private purse.

'I shall not detain by detailing the many less important, altho' useful matters to which my influence and activity had given effect from this time until 1798, but merely observe that no exertion of mine was wanting to forward every object sought, and in which I was always successful, particularly in providing for the wants of our brave fleets in those seas, altho' at this time French ascendancy and revolutionary ideas had arrived at such a height in Naples as made it dangerous for the British Minister to go to Court.

'It was at this awful period, in June, 1798, about three days after the French Fleet passed by for Malta, Sir William and myself were awaken'd at six o'clock in the morning, by Captain Trowbridge with a letter from Sir Horatio Nelson, then with his fleet lying off the bay near to Capree, requesting that the Ambassador would procure him permission to enter with his fleet into Naples, or any of the Sicilian ports to provision, water, &c., as otherwise he must run for Gibraltar, being in urgent want, and that consequently he would be oblig'd to give over all further pursuit of the French fleet, which he miss'd at Egypt on account of their having put into Malta.

'At this time Naples had made peace with France by desire of our Court. Le Comte La Michelle\* was French Ambassador; one of the stipulations was, "that no more than two English ships of war should enter into any of the Neapolitan or Sicilian ports!" However, Sir William call'd up General Acton the Minister, who immediately conven'd a Council, the King present; this was about half-past six; I went to the Queen, who received me in her bed; I told her Majesty, that now depended on her the safety of the two Sicilies; should the Council decide on negative or half measures as *I fear'd they must do*; I told her the Sicilies must be lost, if Nelson was not supplied, and thereby enabled to follow the great French force, that had gone by in that direction, but a few days before; nothing could exceed the alarm, with which this communication inspir'd her, she said the King was in Council, and would decide with his Ministers; I pray'd and implor'd her on my knees; she could not withstand my entreaties and arguments. I brought her pen, ink, and paper to the bed, I *dictated*, and she *wrote* a positive order directed "to all Governors of the two Sicilies, to receive with hospitality the British fleet to water, victual, and aid them;" in every way this order I was well aware, as was the fact, would be more respected, than even that of the King. At eight o'clock, the Council broke up, I was call'd to attend Captain Trowbridge, and my husband to our house. The faces of the King, of Acton, and Sir William, too plainly told the determination that they could not then break with France. On our way home I said I had anticipated the *result* and provided against it; that while they were in Council, I had been with the Queen, and had not implor'd her in vain, producing the order to their astonishment and delight, they embraced me with patriotic joy. It will, said the gallant Trowbridge, cheer to extacy your valiant friend Nelson; we shall now be able to pursue and conquer, *otherwise* we must have gone for Gibraltar.

'Sir William wrote to Nelson the decision of the Council, but said, "You will receive from Emma herself what will do the business and procure all your wants!" I enclosed the order to the Admiral, praying that the Queen may be as little committed in the use of it as the glory and service of the country would admit of.

'The Admiral's reply in my hands says, "That he received the precious order, and that if he gain'd a battle it should be called *mine* and the *Queen's*, for *to you* I will owe my success; without this our returning to Gibraltar was decided on, but

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\* J. P. La Combe de Saint-Michel, 1740-1812, a French General, Member of the Convention, and Ambassador at Naples in 1799.



I will now come back to you cover'd with laurels or crown'd with cypress. The former I had the glory to witness after his destruction of the French fleet at Aboukir, where he found them, after his having been water'd, provision'd, and refresh'd by virtue of the order I had so procured him.

'Here I may be allow'd to ask what sum would this country or its Government have given before that battle for its attainment, and what less should be given for that instrument which led to it, and without which all hope, all opportunity of success, must have been abandon'd? On the 20th September, Nelson return'd to Naples after his glorious victory; I had then inspir'd the Queen with such devotion to our cause, that every desire was granted for the repair of the ships, taking care of the wounded, and general supply of the fleet. And I appeal to every officer, nay, seaman of that conquering fleet, to testify what they witness'd of my unceasing solicitude and indefatigable exertions, to reward their valour by every comfort I could procure them, and above all, to their beloved sick and wounded chief, whose invaluable friendship I ever after had; who to the hour of his death did always say, he could not have surviv'd but for the manner I cheer'd, nurs'd, and attended him, at that time.

'The sore evidence that Nelson had now given the French of my influence at the Neapolitan Court urged their Ambassador to sharp complaints for a breach of bad faith in supplying the British fleet at Syracuse contrary to treaty.

'At this juncture while I found the Court flush'd with our victory of the Nile, I suggested to the Queen the benefits and honor that would result by breaking boldly with the French, and to dismiss their Ambassador altogether, and then raise an army to oppose their threats of invasion.

'The Queen delighted with the proposal, open'd it to the King as I did to Sir William and to Nelson; the Minister Acton was brought into the measure, and it was resolv'd on in Council accordingly; in consequence, and totally unexpected to himself, the French Ambassador and his suite were sent off at 24 hours' notice.

'An army of 35,000 men was raised in nearly a month, they march'd from St. Germain's under command of General Mack; the King himself in the ranks on the 21st November, against a scatter'd and inferior French force; yet so rapidly was this army destroy'd as to oblige our embarkation at Naples by that day month.

'The point of policy with the Court was then "whether they should put themselves entirely under the French, or fly to Sicily under our protection. The many difficulties of getting away, and the uncertainty how a flying Court would be received there, were strong inducements to abide all consequences at Naples. I urged and pleaded the necessity and safety of their coming away; the Queen was almost always with me, and as the French advanced, I placed the horror of their approach full before her eyes; and at length prevail'd in deciding this important measure, for the King was soon brought over to our side: The difficulties were yet many, and of the most dangerous complexion, the growth of French principles, and rapid march of their army upon the capital made it too hazardous to trust the Neapolitans with the plan of getting away the Royal Family, the Court & treasures.

'I however began the work myself and gradually removed all the jewels, and then 36 barrels of gold to our house, these I mark'd as *Stores for Nelson*, being obliged to use every device to prevent the attendants having any idea of our proceedings; by many such stratagems I got those treasures embark'd, and this point gain'd, the King's resolution of coming off was strengthen'd; the Queen I was sure of. The immortal Nelson testify'd that, all this would never have been effected but for my management and exertions; in his letter to Lord St. Vincent or Lord Spencer, he says on this occasion, "Lady Hamilton seem'd to be an angel dropt from heaven for the preservation of the Royal Family"!

'They were indeed unquestionably dear to me; but made entirely so by their perpetual acquiescence to all my wishes in favor of my country.

'Here I humbly submit if it is not to my efforts in thus getting away this Royal Family, Court and treasures from the French grasp, that Sicily has been preserv'd from that power. When the many, I may say the hair breadth risks we ran in our escapes are consider'd, it must be obvious that to cover or colour our proceedings, that we were compel'd to abandon our houses, and all our

valuables as *they stood* without venturing to remove a single article: My own private property thus left to effect this great purpose was little if any short of 9000*l.*, and Sir William's not less than 30,000*l.*, which sum had he to bequeath might naturally have been will'd to me in whole or in part.

'To shew the caution and secrecy that was necessarily used in thus getting away, I had on the night of our embarkation to attend the party given by the Kilim Effendi, who was sent by the Grand Seignior to Naples to present Nelson with the Shahlerih or Plume of Triumph! I had to steal from the party, leaving our carriages and equipages waiting at his house, and in about fifteen minutes to be at my post, where it was my task to conduct the Royal Family thro' the subterranean passage to Nelson's boats by that moment waiting for us on the shore. The season for this voyage was extremely hazardous, and our miraculous preservation is recorded by the Admiral upon our arrival at Palermo.

'When, in 1799, Lord Keith miss'd the French squadron, and Nelson sail'd in quest of them from Palermo, he left me directions to open all letters and dispatches for him, and to act in his behalf to the best in my power, governing myself by events.

'Sir Alexander Ball was at this time in possession of a part of the Island of Malta, residing at S<sup>t</sup> Antonio—the French possessed La Valeta.

'Sir Alexander sent six natives of Malta deputies to Nelson at Palermo for a supply of grain, their necessity being so great for provisions that the inhabitants were ready to join any sortie the French may attempt, in the hope of getting relief'd.

'I receiv'd the deputies, open'd their dispatches, and without hesitation I went down to the port to try what could be done. I found lying there several vessels loaded with corn for Ragusa. Immediately purchased the cargoes, and engaged the vessels to go with their loading and the deputies to Malta: this service Sir Alexander Ball in his letters to me, as well as to Lord Nelson, plainly states to be, "the means whereby he was enabled to preserve that important island." I had to borrow a considerable sum on this occasion, which I since repaid, and with my own private money thus expended was nothing short of £5000, a shilling of which, nor yet y<sup>e</sup> interest, have I ever yet received.

'The Emperor Paul, the Grand Master, on hearing of this affair, wrote me a letter in his own hand, conferring on me the cross of the order, saying, "that I not only saved the island, but that I was the link that kept together the opponents of the common foe!" and I was accordingly invested with the order, with the usual ceremonies, along with Sir Alex<sup>r</sup> Ball. The Emperor, to shew yet further the value of this service, sent to Lord Whitworth,\* then Ambassador at Petersburg, requesting "that this honor might be register'd in the King's College of Arms in my native country."

'Upon the retaking of Naples in 1799, Nelson brought us back there, except the Queen. Sir William was yet so ill and feeble as to be unfit for business, and yet less for the active bustle that those times required. From the beginning of June until the middle of August, I was not only interpreter but Secretary, both to his Secretary and to Nelson. I wrote for them from morning until night, translating whole papers and documents in various languages, that they neither could do themselves or procure any one proper to be entrusted with documents of so secret and confidential a nature. I had also to manage and controul the two households we were obliged to maintain at Palermo and Naples. And the numerous letters of Her Majesty to me at this period, will prove the manner in which I conducted all these occupations, and the favorable light in which my attending to the public cause was then considered. At this time in particular, but, in fact, for the fourteen years that I was Ambassador's wife at this Court, I might have exercised an economy that would have secured me provision for life; but such calculations I would have thought a criminal prudence under the circumstances in which I was placed. My sole view was to maintain the dignity of our royal and beloved master, to advance his interests and wishes, and to

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\* Charles, Earl Whitworth, 1752–1825, a well-known diplomatist, Ambassador to Russia from 1788 to 1800. He was created a Baron in 1800, a Viscount in 1813, when he went as Viceroy to Ireland, and an Earl in 1815.



sooth and alleviate the toils of his brave, loyal seamen in a distant clime, in place of hoarding at such times and occasions. It was my sole pride, my glory, my ambition, thus to have expended what private friendship had bestow'd for my own immediate comforts and use, as I have already shewn, or if further proofs be needed, I appeal to His Royal Highness the Duke of Sussex, to all the nobility, Commanders, nay, to every Briton that witness'd my unceasing zeal and efforts for their comfort and the public good while at the Courts of Naples and Palermo.

'When Sir William was recall'd from his Embassy at Palermo in 1800, the Queen determin'd to travel with us as far as Vienna to see her daughter, then Empress of Germany; Nelson also accompanied us. His Lordship and Sir William were present at my parting with the Queen. At that affecting moment her Majesty put into my hands a paper, saying it was the conveyance of a thousand pounds a year that she had fixed to invest for me in the hands of Friez, the Government Bank at Vienna, *this*, she said, "least by any possibility I should not be suitably compensated for the services I had rendered, the monies I had generously expended, and the losses I had so voluntarily sustained for the benefit of her nation and my own!"

'As I then stood I thought the acceptance of such a reward from the Queen, circumstanced as she was, unworthy a British heart. With every expression of respect and gratitude to Her Majesty, I destroyed the instrument, saying, "England was ever just, and to her faithful servants *generous!*" and "that I would feel it unworthy to my own beloved magnanimous Sovereign to accept of meed or reward from any other hand."

'On our arrival in England, I did not cease my efforts to serve the country, and, I trust, effectually. It was in consequence of my earnest entreaties that Lord Nelson consented in 1801 to go to the attack of Copenhagen, second in command under Admiral Parker. Had he not been there, Government must be sensible how very different would have been the result of that memorable engagement. Again, in 1805, by my representations and entreaties, somewhat against his own notions and presentiments, I prevail'd on him to offer himself to command the fleet then equipping to go against the combined fleets at Cadiz, which terminated in his last glorious, but fatal victory of Trafalgar! If, then, either or both these battles were gained by his superior zeal, vigilance, skill, and valour, I have proof that he would never have been at the one or the other but at my instance.

'It was long after our return to England that Sir William was paid by Government, in which time I sold *my jewels* at a heavy loss for his support. He went on to the end of life in the full conviction that his pension would be continued to me, to *a person* who had gain'd so many points for the country and for her fleets, which, he would say, was impossible for him or any man to have gain'd. In this expectation he was yet more confirmed by the language of his inseparable friend, Nelson, who ever would keep telling him, and, indeed, all the world, that the battle of the Nile was Emma's, not his, and also assuring Sir William that he had Mr. Pitt's solemn unequivocal pledge of honor that suitable provision should be made for me, and in corroboration of this fact I *appeal to the living testimony of Sir Walter Farquhar*, to whom that great statesman on his dying bed confirm'd those promises he had made Lord Nelson on my behalf, with his dying request that they may be fulfill'd by his successors.

'And I also appeal to Mess<sup>rs</sup> Canning and Rose, to state if, on behalf of Government, they had not reassured his Lordship on their taking leave of him on board the *Victory* at Portsmouth, the 14<sup>h</sup> Sept<sup>r</sup>, 1805, *on his last sailing*, "that the promises made by M<sup>r</sup> Pitt in my favor should be fully realized."

'A disposition more avaricious and less love of country, than has been evinced by mine, might well have been buoy'd up by so many flattering pretensions and assurances of public remuneration with gratitude, and in proportion as Sir William felt their force, as well as his unalterable faith in the justice of the country, so in proportion was his provision for me lessen'd, so that my title to public reward has thus caused me the loss of private fortune, that without such claims would have been left me by my husband, who in his latter moments, in deputing M<sup>r</sup> Greville to deliver the Order of the Bath to the King, desired he would tell His Majesty that he died in the confident hope that his pension would be continued to me for my zeal and services.

'Time has gone on. Thinking that my case could not be overlook'd, I have felt easy; had the curtail'd provision left me by Sir William, under the conviction of its being an ample one by the country, has diminish'd without a semblance of extravagance, and now find myself in embarrassments that imperiously press on me to look for remuneration for those services, expenditures, and losses, that I have *recited*, and not alone for immediate support, but as well for payment of that support for the time past that I have been waiting in just expectation.

'In that expectation being liberally realised I can have nothing but implicit confidence, "as our august Prince was well acquainted with it by Lord Nelson himself, and fully coincided in its justice."

'It may be here expected of me to state why the codicil to Lord Nelson's will, bequeathing my services to the justice of the country, was not produced with the will itself.

'When Captain Blackwood brought it home, he gave it to the present Earl Nelson, who with his wife and family were then with me, and had, indeed, been living with me many months. To their son I was a mother, and their daughter, Lady Charlotte, had been exclusively under my care for six years. The Earl, afraid I should be provided for in the sum that Parliament was expected to grant to uphold the hero's name and family, kept the codicil in his pocket until the day £200,000 was voted for that purpose. *On that day* he dined with me in Clarges Street. Hearing at table what was done, he took the codicil *out*, threw it to me, and said with a very coarse expression, "that I might now do as I pleas'd with it." I had it registered the next day at Doctors' Commons where it rests for the national redemption.

'The enthusiastic love of country, the bustle and promptitude necessary on the various occasions recited, springing from an ardent mind, could ill afford time for entertaining ideas of parsimony or precision of accounts when such interests were at stake—public interests, interests of vital importance.

'I may, however, without fear of exaggeration affirm that my private funds in monies expended and losses sustained, have suffer'd a diminution of full £20,000. Had I hoarded these sums *that* I must be permitted to say, I generously expended for the honor and advantage of the country, I might at this hour have a competence independant of any remuneration for the services I have quoted, and which I have no doubt the country would wish me to enjoy.'

1047. A. L. S. from Lady Hamilton to Horatia. Dated 'April 18th (Easter Sunday), 1813.' 4 pages 4to. [P.]

'Listen to a kind, good mother, who has ever been to you affectionate, truly kind, and who has neither spared pains nor expense to make you the most amiable and most accomplish'd of your sex. Ah, Horatia! if you had grown up as I wish'd you, what a joy, what a comfort might you have been to me! for I have been constant to you, and willingly pleased for every manifestation you shew'd to learn and profit of my lessons, and I have ever been most willing to overlook injuries. But now 'tis for myself I speak & write. Look into yourself well, correct yourself of your errors, your caprices, your nonsensical follies, for by your inattention you have forfeited all claims to my future kindness. I have weathered many a storm for your sake, but these frequent blows have kill'd me. Listen, then, from a mother who speaks from the dead! Reform your conduct, or you will be detested by all the world, & when you shall no longer have my fostering arm to sheild you, whoe betide you! you will sink to nothing. Be good, be honourable, tell not falsehoods, be not capricious, follow the advice of the mother whom I shall place you in at school, for a governess must act as mother. I grieve & lament to see the increasing strength of your turbulent passions; I weep & pray you may not be totally lost; my fervent prayers are offered up to God for you; I hope you will yet become sensible of your eternal welfare. I shall go join your father & my blessed mother, & may you on your death-bed have as little to reproach yourself as your once affectionate mother has, for I can glorify, & say I was a good child. *Can Horatia Nelson say so? I am unhappy to say you CANNOT.* No answer to this? I shall to-morrow look out for a school, for your sake & to *save you*, that you may bless the memory of an injured mother.

'P.S.—Look on me now as gone from this world.'



1048. A. L. S. from Miss Matcham to Lady Hamilton. Dated 'Sunday morning' (May 9th, 1813). 1½ page 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'It was our intention to have paid you a visit unexpectedly on Tuesday morning, mama and papa having written to the Earl to say they would spend two nights in Portman Square ; but the alarming account we received from Tom yesterday of my poor aunt\* has altered our plans for the present. To day we have no letter, & therefore hope she is not worse ; but, at any rate, I write this to entreat you to let me hear from you by return of post, whether you have a letter from Bradenham or not. Mrs. Girdlestone is staying with them, but says there is very little hope of her recovering, and, unless the medicine she is now taking produces some wonderful change, all their hopes are gone. Sir W<sup>m</sup> & Lady Bolton were sent for from Suffolk. I am sure you will feel for us too much to let us remain in an uncertainty, therefore, my dear Lady, with the hope of hearing from you on Tuesday,' &c.

'P.S.—If you cannot write yourself, let Horatia or Miss Wheatly give us one line by return of post.'

1049. A. L. S. from Mrs. Matcham to the same. Dated 'Wednesday morning' (May 19th, 1813). 2 pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'We were truly mortified to find you from home the three times we called, & we fully intended to have seen you the morning we left town ; but we were obliged to set off early on acc<sup>t</sup> of coming with our own horses. We would have staid a day longer on purpose to have taken a peep at you, but, to say the truth, our money was all gone, & we were obliged to borrow of our bankers ; but, however, one expense we must incur, as I am afraid we must go to Bradenham to see my dear sister, if she makes a point of seeing us. In that case, we shall certainly see you in passing through town, as we shall not sleep there. I am sorry to say the acc<sup>ts</sup> from Bradenham are by no means flattering to-day. I much fear she will never recover ; but we must look forward with hope, & try to make her as happy as we can. God bless you and dear Horatia, and believe us, at all times, yours affect<sup>ly</sup>,' &c.

1050. A. L. S. from Lady Bolton to the same. Dated Bradenham, September 2nd, 1813. 3 pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'I have long wished to write to you, but the reflection of the severe loss we have sustained, which writing to any of my friends brings with fresh force to my mind, have prevented me, yet I must write for the first time, and the longer I delay it, the worse it will be, for at present she is always in our thoughts. Our house appears so melancholy, we miss her everywhere. She was always in the way to hear our little distresses, and to relieve them if in her power, if not, to sympathise with us. What a void has her death made in our once cheerful circle. Time alone can lessen our grief. Our dear invalid † continues much the same as when she wrote last. We have had Ashley Cooper's ‡ advice, but have not acted on it long enough at present to know whether she will receive any benefit from it. I am sorry to say, within this last week she has been ill, independent of her knee. Whether this proceeds from weakness occasioned from being confined so long to her bed, or from a cold caught this changeable weather, I cannot tell.

'Eliza is not yet confined, but she expects very soon ; poor thing, to add to her other complaints, she has been tormented with the toothache for this last

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\* Mrs. Bolton, who died July 13th.

† Miss Anne Bolton.

‡ Sir Astley Paston Cooper, 1768–1841, one of the best-known surgeons of his day. In 1820 he attended George IV., who created him a Baronet, in 1827 he was President of the College of Surgeons, and in 1828 was appointed surgeon to William IV.

week. You know she has great courage, and two days ago she had it drawn. She has been better since, but she still suffers from pain in the face, and it is much swelled, but I hope now she will soon get the better of it. Emma has been at Brancaster for near three months, the first time I ever was parted from her for so long a time. She came home about ten days ago; such a happy meeting. Tell Horatia she was quite delighted with her new sister, and is so fond of nursing her. Little Mary Anne grows very nicely. She is a small child, but fat. Not at all like Emma, I think, but very much like Sir William. She is a great amusement to all the party. Even poor Anne will have her carried and put into her arms for a short time every day. Emma sends many loves and kisses to her cousin Horatia. She often speaks of cousin Horatia. She will write one day to her soon, but she must wait till I am well enough to attend to her. I hope when you write you will be able to give me good accounts of your own health. You have been an invalid for a long time. I trust now you will find your health improve rapidly. Sir William has been and is very busy at Deptford. Not a moment to spare, and he says with all his pains they make very little progress. I conclude you have not seen him lately, as he has not been in town for some time. Anne sends love and kisses to you. I think she thinks and speaks often of you both. I had a letter from Ashfold this morning. All well there. Let us hear from you soon. All unite in love to you and Horatia.'

1051. A. L. S. from Lady Hamilton to Horatia. Dated October 31st, 1813. 4 pages 8vo. [P.]

'Horatia,—Your conduct is so bad, your falsehoods so dreadfull, your cruel treatment to me such that I cannot live under these afflicting circumstances; my poor heart is broken. If my poor mother was living to take my part, broken as I am with greif and ill-health, I should be happy to breathe my last in her arms. I thank you for what you have done to-day. You have helped me on nearer to God, and may God forgive you. In two days all will be arranged for your future establishment, and on Tuesday at 12, Col. & Mrs. Smith, Trickey, Mr. and Mrs. Denis, Dr. Norton will be here to hear all. Every servant shall be put on their oath, as I shall send for Nany at Richmond—Mr. Slop, Mrs. Sice, Anne Deane—and get letters from the Boltons and Matchams to confront you, & tell the truth if I have used you ill; but the all-seeing eye of God knows my innocence. It is therefore my command that you do not speak to me till Tuesday, & if to-day you do speak to me, I will that moment let Col. & Mrs. Clive into all your barbarous scenes on my person, life and honnor.'

1052. A. L. S. from Miss and Mr. Matcham to Lady Hamilton. Dated November 21st, 1813. 4½ pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'Mama only received your letter, dated 23<sup>rd</sup> October, yesterday, which I hope will account to you for my not writing before. We have sent Horatia two or three letters since the date of your's, which must have made it appear still more extraordinary, but we were most happy to find you are better and can take an airing in the carriage. Mama has not been at all well for some time, but we hope in a short time to see her regain her usual spirits and strength. You know this is not the most pleasant time of year, and the loss we have all had in one of the best of aunts cannot so soon be forgot. I have not heard from Bradenham these two months, but their situation is to be lamented. Poor Eliza losing the baby was a great grief, tho' we must all rejoice at her own life having been spared. Do you know how Lady Bolton is? When you write, say we are anxious to hear from them. As to news, my dear Lady, it is a scarce commodity in these parts. Eliza wrote Horatia an account of our Salisbury trip, and M<sup>rs</sup> Hemming and her smart son's unexpected visit. He appears a very steady, well-informed young man, of course, anxious to join Lord Wellington again. We had staying with us when they arrived, Cha<sup>s</sup> Wesley, with his old mother and sister. He enquired kindly after you. We have seen but little of our neighbours this summer. The Knowlys have been enlarging their house, and made it much more comfortable.



She is now a constant resident here, but last week went to town on account of her husband being unwell, but he soon found himself able to manage without her; she is, therefore, returned again. The Pilfolds are gone to live at a village three miles from Cuckfield, and have got a very nice house, but, in my opinion, it is a very dull village. The Sargesons are going on much as usual. Tell Horatia they do say both the Col. and old lady visited the place last Xmas, and the latter sang most beautifully. Poor M<sup>rs</sup> Dart is greatly afflicted, having lately received the melancholy account of her daughter's death. We saw her, a short time before, at Brighton, where she was waiting the arrival of the fleet, and I think her mind was nearly prepared for the worst. We have not heard from M<sup>rs</sup> Harrison for some months, but her nephew, young Blanckley, brought home Joseph's sword, which I hope will be the means of making him known. I think the old lady must be in high spirits upon the occasion.

'With respect to the potatoes, papa has a great abundance, and if you can tell us what waggon to send them by, you can have as many as you wish for, or any other article the farm produces for which you may have a desire. Write as soon as possible, and let us know how to send them. It is always a pleasure to hear from you and Horatia, to whom all her cousins unite in kind remembrances. Your god-son is quite the delight of the house, and grown tall and stout; son-in-law is much improved and sends his best love. Papa, I believe, wrote an account of us all in the box which contained Horatia's hat, which we were happy to hear she liked. Mama would have written to you, but is unable at present. I hope in my next letter to say she is recovered. Miss Owens is looking forwards to the time of her enjoyments in town, when I shall be fully employed in keeping school, but Harriet and Horatia are grown such great girls that my assistance will not be wanted much longer. We shall not see you this winter-time I suppose, but at any rate write soon, & believe me,' &c.

(FROM MR. MATCHAM.)

'Now' 21<sup>st</sup>, 1813.—Pray let us know the carrier's name of the waggon which passes your house. We will supply you with potatoes all the winter, and send you a turkey by the first opportunity. If you find it impossible to pay us a visit, M<sup>rs</sup> M. and I shall be tempted to go to Temple Place before the close of the winter and pass a day with you. We have been always sensible of the ingratitude you have met with, but is it not better to be wholly freed from any attention of that man, who is insensible to everything but what immediately appertains to his own interest? Write as soon as ever you can, and give directions for anything our farm can supply,' &c.

1053. A. L. S. from Miss and Mr. Matcham to the same. No date (April 18th, 1814). 3½ pages 4to., with Superscription. [P.]

'I only waited till George returned to thank you for the letter mama received, in which we were happy to find yourself & dear Horatia were so well. What a winter we have had; but, thank God, we have suffered very little from its severity. Our country begins to look very pretty. I wish we could have you with us; Papa says he would send the carriage to meet you anywhere. This news has given us all new life. What glorious intelligence it is. All the world are flocking abroad to more genial climates. We have not had a letter from Bradenham this five weeks. I am afraid we must conclude Anne is not better.

'Mrs. Peirson and Charlotte have gone to town. Pray remember us to them if they are. We dined last week at Mrs. Knowlys', and met the whole family, who are come down for the Easter holiday's. This is the only visit we have paid since last November, so you must not expect much variety in my letters. We talk of going soon to Brighton, and intend inquiring after the health of our old acquaintance, Mr. Coxe, who did say he would call upon you when he went to town. I have had two friends talking the whole time this scrawl has been writing. I must beg you will forgive my sending it to the post, which I do not like to pass another day without writing to my dear Lady Hamilton. Ask Horatia to write & tell me all the news, and whether our Norfolk friends are arrived.

'With the united love of all.'

(FROM MR. MATCHAM.)

'We are all anxious, my dear Lady Hamilton, to see you at Ashfold. The summons to Mrs. M. and myself to escort you and dear Horatia to this place would be most grateful to us. You have heard of the Earl's conduct; he has been as inimical to the whole family as his present means allowed. But, I have no doubt, the principal train of his thoughts are directed to injure as much as possible those who were loved by his brother, the good & noble Lord. When our house is free of visitors, Mr. M. & myself purpose going as far as your house, and staying with you a few hours. We shall not go into London, our only object will be to see you & talk over our future destination. The dear beautiful Ashfold is offered for sale. My other planted property I shall not dispose of, as it will be of no further expense to me, and may in time prove an advantage to my family. You will conse<sup>ly</sup> infer that we seek another country. We do; but where, I cannot determine till I have some conversation with my travelled friends. Write us frequently. I offer a joint wish that we may all settle abroad in some city, town, or village,' &c.

1054. A. L. S. from Lady Hamilton to (James Perry). Dated 12 Temple Place, April 22nd, 1814. 4 pages 4to.

'To my great surprise I saw yesterday in the *Herald* that Lord Nelson's letters to me were published. I have not seen the book, but I give you my honour that I know nothing of these letters. I have been now nine months in Temple Place, & almost all the time I have been very ill with a bilious complaint, brought on by fretting & anxiety, & lately I have kept my bed for near twelve weeks, nor have I seen any person except Dr. Watson & Mr. Tegart, who have attended me with kindness & attention, & to whose care I owe my life. About four years ago my house in Dover Street was on fire, & I was going into Sussex for 3 months, & I left part of my papers in a case with a person to whom I thought I cou'd depend on. Weather this person has made use of any of these papers, or weather they are the invention of a vile, mercenary wretch, I know not, but you will oblige me much by contradicting these falsehoods, and you will much gratify your gratefull,' &c.

'P.S.—If I had not been so ill, I shou'd have answer'd the Poet Laureate's\* falsehoods, which they tell me he has publish'd in an abridgment of the life of the good & glorious Lord Nelson; but this I will do & prove, that all he has said relating to the affair of Carraciola is false. But Nelson, Sir William, & myself, did too much for the good cause not to make enimys amongst those who wish'd to abolish royalty & level every one who thought and acted right. I am now suffering for having been too generous, for I might have been rich if I had only thought of myself & not of my country. I have now given all up to pay my debts, not having ever received one farthing from Government, neither as the widow of a minister who served 37 years, and for the last ten years my indefatigable pains and the procuring of the letters for the supplying of the fleet before the glorious Battle of the Nile, which was the first death-blow to the French and again revived dear old England at a moment of dispondency. Yet all this has hitherto been neglected, nor have my great and glorious friend's wishes in the moment of death & victory been listened to. God bless you, my dear sir, my heart is too full to say more.'

1055. A. L. S. from the same to Hon. R. F. Greville. Dated 'Common of St. Pierre, 2 miles from Calais. Direct for me chez Desin, September 21<sup>st</sup> (1814). 1 $\frac{1}{4}$  page folio, with Superscription and Seal. [H.]

'You know that my jointure of eight hundred pounds a year has been now for a long time accumulating. If I was to die, I should have left that money away, for the annuitants have no right to have it, nor can they claim it, for I was most

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\* Southey's *Life of Nelson* was published in 1813.



dreadfully imposed upon for my good nature, in being bail for a person whom I thought honorable. When I came away I came with honor, as Mr. Alderman Smith can inform you, but mine own innocence keeps me up, and I despise all false accusations and aspersions. I have given up everything to pay just debts, but annuitants never will. Now, sir, let me entreat you to send me a hundred pounds, for I understand you have the money. I live very quiet in a farm house, and my health is now quite established. Let me, sir, beg this favour to your,' &c.

'P.S.—Sir W<sup>m</sup> Scott writes me there is some hopes to my irresistible claims—such are his words.

'The best meat here five pence a pound, 2 quarts of new milk 2 pence, fowls 13 pence, a couple ducks the same. We bought 2 fine turkeys for four shillings, an excellent turbot for half-a-crown, fresh from the sea, partridges five pence the couple, good Bordeaux wine, white & red for fiveteen pence the bottle, but there are some for ten sous, halfpence.

'L<sup>d</sup> Cathcart past 3 days ago. Horatia improving in person & education every day. She speaks French like a French girl, Italian, German, English,' &c.\*

1056. A. L. S. from Mr. H. Lloyd to the same. Dated 11 Chapel Place, Cavendish Square, December 13th, 1814. 1 page 4to., with Superscription and Seal. [H.]

'I inclose a letter to Lady Hamilton written by my client on the subject of her Ladyship giving a rec<sup>t</sup>, which I shall be obliged that you will forward to her Ladyship. I have the honour to be,' &c.†

1057. A. L. S. from the same to the same. Dated 11 Chapel Place, Cavendish Square, January 19th, 1815. 1 page 4to., with Superscription and Seal. [H.]

'My client has never rec<sup>d</sup> any answer from Lady Hamilton, consequently the suit must proceed. To that effect I have written to Messrs. Vizard & Co. to put in your ans<sup>r</sup>.

'I have the honour to be,' &c.‡

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\* An A. copy of Mr. Greville's answer is written on the back of the above letter; it is as follows:—

'G<sup>t</sup> Cumberland Street,  
'Oxford St. Sep<sup>tr</sup> 27<sup>th</sup>, 1814.

'Madam,—Your letter of Sep<sup>tr</sup> 21<sup>st</sup> I received only by yesterday's post, & I reply to it without delay. It is now some time since the regular payments from me of *your annuity* of eight hundred pounds a year were very unexpectedly interrupted by a notice addressed to me by professional persons, & on the ground that you had made over the greater part of the same for *pecuniary considerations received by you*, & in consequence warning me not to continue the pay<sup>ts</sup> of your annuity otherwise than to them to the extent of these claims.

'Not hearing from you in the long intermediate time which followed respect<sup>g</sup> your not receiving your pay<sup>ts</sup> as usual, I could scarce doubt the unpleasant statements I had received. Still, I have demurred making any pay<sup>ts</sup> where called on, and under existing circumstances I must not venture to make payments *in any direction* until this mysterious business is made clear to me, and whereby my acts by legal authority may be rendered perfectly secure to me.

'This done, of course I shall pay arrears & continue all future payments *whenever they shall be due*, with the same precision & punctuality as has hitherto *always* been maintained & which were *attended to to the day*, until they were thus interrupted. But now *my own security* requires that I should clearly know *how this mysterious business actually stands*, e'er I shall deem it prudent or safe for me to stir a step in a case where I am resolved not to act on doubtful reports. I remain,' &c.

† On the same sheet is a copy of Mr. Greville's reply:—

'(Copy of my answer.)

'Brighton, December 14th, 1814.—Your's of yesterday's date I have received by post this day, forwarded from my house in town, where it was directed.

'Its inclosure, directed for the Hon<sup>ble</sup> Lady Hamilton from your client, I have, according to your-wish, forwarded to her from hence p<sup>r</sup> post. I am,' &c.

‡ On the back of the above letter is the following A. copy of Mr. Greville's answer:—

'(Copy of my answer to Mr. Lloyd.)

'Mr. Greville presents his compliments to Mr. Lloyd. He received his letter of the 19th

1058. A. Copy of A. L. S. from Hon. R. F. Greville to Mr. H. Lloyd.  
Dated Gt. Cumberland Street, Oxford Street, January 24th, 1815.  
1 page 8vo., with Superscription. [H.]

'I have to request you will call on *Mr. Jones, No. 2 Lincoln's Inn*, respect<sup>s</sup> my answer to the bill in Chancery of your client. I am,' &c.

1059. Copy of L. S. (in French, partly autograph) from the same to the Prefect of the Department of Calais. Dated 'Londres, ce 25 Janvier' (1815). 3 pages 4to., with endorsement. [H.]

'Il a paru dans notre gazette (*Morning Post*) du 25 du courant l'article suivant, tiré de la gazette de France du 20 de ce mois :

'Calais, 17 Janvier.—"The celebrated Emma, widow of Sir William Hamilton, died here yesterday," &c. &c.

'Il est aussi fait mention dans le même article que d'après les dernières volontés de la dite Lady Hamilton, son corps sera transporté en Angleterre.

'Maintenant, monsieur, je réclame de votre complaisance de vouloir bien me rendre le service de prendre, ou de faire prendre, dans votre dp<sup>t</sup> des informations à ce sujet ; car il est urgent pour moi d'avoir la certitude du décès de Lady Ha——, puisqu'elle recevoit sur ma terre une pension viagère.

'Je sollicite de vous, monsieur, une prompte réponse, et vous demande pardon d'avance de la peine que cela vous causera.

'J'ai l'honneur d'être,' &c.

At the bottom of the letter Mr. Greville has written as follows :—

'Received an answer on Tuesday even<sup>g</sup>, Jan<sup>ry</sup> 31st, from Calais, signed "L. Michaud, Maire de Calais, Chevalier de la Légion d'honneur," stating that Lady Hamilton died at Calais on the 15th of Jan<sup>ry</sup>.

'Wrote on Tuesday evening the following note to Mr. Lloyd :—

'Gt. Cumberland St.

'Jan<sup>ry</sup> 31st, 1815.

'Mr. Greville presents his compliments to Mr. Lloyd and thanks him for his communication of yesterday.

'He has this even<sup>g</sup> received a letter from *the Mayor of Calais*, to whom he has wrote lately requesting information respecting the reports of Lady Hamilton's death, & by which letter it appears that *Lady Hamilton died at Calais on the 15th inst.*'

1060. A. L. S. from Mr. John Jones to the Hon. R. F. Greville. Dated Lincoln's Inn, January 26th, 1815. 1 page 4to., with Superscription and Seal. [H.]

'I have received information this morning, upon which I can rely, that Lady Hamilton is certainly dead, and was buried on Friday last.

'I understand that she died in extreme poverty.

'I have not seen or heard from Mr. Vizard, and am,' &c.

1061. A. L. S. from Mr. H. Lloyd to the same. Dated 11 Chapel Place, January 26th, 1815. 1 page 8vo., with Superscription and Seal. [H.]

'In reply to your last favour I beg leave to suggest that the death of Lady

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inst. late last night. He will immediately give instructions for the answer to the bill in Chancery to be prepar<sup>d</sup> & send in without delay.

'Gt. Cumberland St., Oxford St.

'Jan<sup>ry</sup> 21st, 1815.'



Hamilton may, perhaps, terminate any further litigation on the subject, & which greatly rests with yourself. I shall, therefore, be happy to attend you on Monday, or any other day, at  $\frac{1}{2}$  past 12, that may be conv<sup>t</sup>, to propose an arrangement of the funds without legal decisions, if possible, & with security to yourself. I have the honour to be, &c.\*

1062. A. Doc. S. 'Henry Cadogan.'  $\frac{1}{4}$  page 4to., oblong. [P.]

'Funeral expenses of the late Lady Emma Hamilton, as paid by me, Henry Cadogan, at Calais in France, Jan<sup>ry</sup>, 1815 :—

'An oak coffin, casked, church expenses, priests, candles,  
burial-ground, men sitting up, dressing the body,  
spirits, &c. &c. ... .. £28 10 0.'

1063. A. L. S. from Mr. H. Lloyd to Hon. R. F. Greville. Dated '11 Chapel Place, Monday, 3 o'clock' (January 30th, 1815). 1 page 4to., with Superscription and Seal. [H.]

'I have this inst. received a letter from Calais stating that Lady Hamilton died there on the 15th, and was buried on the 21st. I am, &c.

1064. A. Doc. S. 'Henry Cadogan.'  $\frac{1}{4}$  page 4to., oblong. [P.]

'Rec<sup>d</sup>, Feb<sup>ry</sup> 4th, 1815, of J. J. Smith, Esq., the sum of twenty-eight pounds ten shillings, being the amount of funeral expences for the late Lady Emma Hamilton, at Calais, in France, as paid by me.

(Signed) HENRY CADOGAN.

'£28 10 0'

1065. A. L. S. from Mr. H. Lloyd to Hon. R. F. Greville. Dated 11 Chapel Place, February 8th, 1815. 1 page 4to., with Superscription and Seal. [H.]

'I have applied to Mr. Jones, & had his reply stating, with the concurrence of the representatives of Lady Hamilton, that he apprehended you may pay my client his demand, which I shall endeavour to obtain. If you sh<sup>d</sup> hear where Lady Hamilton was born or any of her relations reside, I shall feel indebted for such information. I shall be obliged if you will desire Mr. Jones either to let me have the loan of the Calais letter for a few hours or shew it to Mr. Parke, Sec<sup>y</sup> to the Pelican Life Office. Your immediate communication to Mr. Jones on the above subject I shall likewise esteem a favour. I have the honour to be, &c.

'P.S.—I intend calling on Mr. Jones to-morrow.'

1066. A. L. S. from the same to the same. Dated 11 Chapel Place, Cavendish Square, February 8th, 1815. 2 pages 4to., with Superscription and Seal. [H.]

'I trust you will excuse the liberty I am about to take in addressing this letter to you for the purpose of requesting the loan of the letter that you rec<sup>d</sup> from Calais, in order to prove to the Directors of the Pelican Insurance Office that Lady Hamilton died at Calais & was buried there—at which office my client insured the life of Lady Hamilton. I have submitted the letter that I rec<sup>d</sup> from

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\* With the above is the following A. copy of Mr. Greville's answer :—

'In answer to Mr. Lloyd's note of the 26th inst., Mr. Greville desires to intimate that he will be at home on Monday next, the 30th inst., at half past twelve o'clock, & ready to receive Mr. Lloyd at that time.

'Mr. G. has *hitherto* received *no* other information of Lady Hamilton's death than through the channel of the public newspapers.

'No. 1 Gt. Cumberland St.

'Saturday, Jan<sup>ry</sup> 29th, 1815.'

Calais to the Directors of the above office, as also your favour communicating the death of Lady Hamilton thro' the Mayor of Calais. He being an official person, the Directors have requested a sight of his letter as a voucher authorising them to pay my client the amount of his insurance. Your compliance to my request will be esteemed an obligation by myself and client, & I shall feel obliged if you will have kindness to send it p<sup>r</sup> bearer, or I will wait on you any hour that may be convenient for the said letter, as the board sits to-morrow, & ag<sup>st</sup> that time am anxious to have the letter. I have the honour to be,' &c.

'P.S.—I will take great care of the letter, & return it to you on Friday next.'\*

1067. A. L. S. from Horatia Nelson (Mrs. Ward) to Mr. Griffin. Dated Bircham Newton, November 3rd (1829). 1 page 4to., with Superscription and Seal. [P.]

'As I was from home at the time it arrived, I did not receive your letter till last week. I am sorry it is utterly out of my power to assist your son, as I have no interest whatever in any quarter; and, to candidly confess the truth, had I any, I should be obliged to reserve it for my own family, as I have many children and a small income. In the hope that your applications may be successful elsewhere, I remain,' &c.

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\* With the above is the following A. copy of Mr. Greville's answer:—

'(Copy of my answer to this letter.)

'Gt. Cumberland St.

'Febr<sup>y</sup> 9th, 1815.

'The letter, respecting which you make enquiry, is in the hands of Mr. Jones, No. 2 Lincoln's Inn.

'All references on the subject must be made to him. I have not heard that you have, as yet, seen Mr. Jones. I am,' &c.





## APPENDIX A.

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A. Accounts of 'Emma Hart' at Edgware Row. Dated between October 27th, 1784, and February 21st, 1785. 17 pages 4to. [H.]

'EMMA HART.		THE DAY ACCOUNT BOOK.					October 27th, 1784.		
1784.		<i>Money Paid, &amp;c.</i>							
27th Oct.	...	Baker's Bill, one week	...	...	...	...	£0	4	11
"	"	Butter Bill, one week...	...	...	...	...	0	5	1
"	"	Butcher	...	...	...	...	0	7	8½
"	"	Wood	...	...	...	...	0	1	0
28th	"	Pidgeons	...	...	...	...	0	2	0
29th	"	Mold Candles	...	...	...	...	0	2	3
"	"	Gloves	...	...	...	...	0	1	6
"	"	Letters	...	...	...	...	0	0	4
"	"	Coach	...	...	...	...	0	1	0
"	"	Apples	...	...	...	...	0	0	2½
"	"	Poor Man	...	...	...	...	0	0	0½
"	"	Mangle	...	...	...	...	0	0	5
30th	"	Tea	...	...	...	...	0	12	0
"	"	Suger	...	...	...	...	0	9	9
"	"	Butcher	...	...	...	...	0	5	4
"	"	Scotch Gaize	...	...	...	...	0	0	6
31st	"	Porter	...	...	...	...	0	0	2
"	"	Eggs	...	...	...	...	0	0	4
1st Nov.	...	Magazines	...	...	...	...	0	1	0
"	"	Cotton & Needles	...	...	...	...	0	0	9
"	"	Coach	...	...	...	...	0	1	0
"	"	Baker's Bill	...	...	...	...	0	4	11
"	"	Butter Bill	...	...	...	...	0	5	0
"	"	Milk	...	...	...	...	0	2	3
"	"	Gardener	...	...	...	...	0	2	0
2nd	"	Butcher	...	...	...	...	0	2	6
"	"	1 Sack of Coals	...	...	...	...	0	3	6
"	"	Oysters...	...	...	...	...	0	0	8
"	"	Porter	...	...	...	...	0	0	2
"	"	Eggs	...	...	...	...	0	0	4
"	"	Handkerchiefs	...	...	...	...	1	10	0
"	"	Stockings	...	...	...	...	2	10	0
3rd	"	Mrs. Hackwood	...	...	...	...	4	12	6
"	"	Widgeings	...	...	...	...	0	2	6
"	"	Coals	...	...	...	...	0	3	6
4th	"	Muton	...	...	...	...	0	2	0
"	"	Fowl	...	...	...	...	0	2	4
6th	"	Coals	...	...	...	...	0	3	6
7th	"	Oysters...	...	...	...	...	0	0	6
"	"	Muton	...	...	...	...	0	3	0
"	"	Candles	...	...	...	...	0	2	9
"	"	Mold Candles	...	...	...	...	0	1	6½
"	"	Starch	...	...	...	...	0	1	0



7th	Nov.	...	Blue	...	...	...	...	£0	0	6
"	"	...	Soap	...	...	...	...	0	2	0
8th	"	...	A Pint of Porter	...	...	...	...	0	0	2
"	"	...	2 Rabbits	...	...	...	...	0	1	3
"	"	...	Beef Stakes	...	...	...	...	0	0	8
"	"	...	Coals	...	...	...	...	0	3	6
"	"	...	Butter Bill	...	...	...	...	0	4	9
9th	"	...	Baker's Bill	...	...	...	...	0	4	11
"	"	...	Milk	...	...	...	...	0	2	3
"	"	...	Gardener	...	...	...	...	0	2	0
10th	"	...	Wrighting Paper, Wax, &c.	...	...	...	...	0	2	6
"	"	...	Coach	...	...	...	...	0	2	0
"	"	...	A Fowl	...	...	...	...	0	2	0
"	"	...	Black Lead	...	...	...	...	0	0	2
"	"	...	Pins & Thread	...	...	...	...	0	0	8 $\frac{1}{2}$
"	"	...	Porter	...	...	...	...	0	0	2
11th	"	...	Eggs	...	...	...	...	0	0	6
"	"	...	A Fowl	...	...	...	...	0	2	4
"	"	...	Chees	...	...	...	...	0	0	6
12th	"	...	Coals	...	...	...	...	0	3	6
13th	"	...	Tea	...	...	...	...	0	6	0
"	"	...	Coals	...	...	...	...	0	3	6
"	"	...	Wood	...	...	...	...	0	1	0
"	"	...	Porter	...	...	...	...	0	0	2
"	"	...	Brick Dust	...	...	...	...	0	0	1 $\frac{1}{2}$
"	"	...	Nurse	...	...	...	...	0	2	6
"	"	...	Coach	...	...	...	...	0	1	0
14th	"	...	Porter	...	...	...	...	0	0	2
"	"	...	Dimity Handkerchifs, &c., &c.	...	...	...	...	8	8	0
"	"	...	Baker	...	...	...	...	0	4	0
15th	"	...	Butter	...	...	...	...	0	4	11
"	"	...	Fish, &c.	...	...	...	...	0	4	0
16th	"	...	Fowls	...	...	...	...	0	4	8
"	"	...	Coals	...	...	...	...	0	3	6
17th	"	...	Porter	...	...	...	...	0	0	2
"	"	...	Cheese	...	...	...	...	0	0	11
"	"	...	Fowls	...	...	...	...	0	4	0
18th	"	...	Meat	...	...	...	...	0	2	0
"	"	...	Beef & Mutton	...	...	...	...	0	5	11 $\frac{1}{2}$
"	"	...	Coach	...	...	...	...	0	1	0
19th	"	...	Coals	...	...	...	...	0	3	6
"	"	...	Wood	...	...	...	...	0	1	0
20th	"	...	Vinegar...	...	...	...	...	0	0	7
"	"	...	Rabbitt...	...	...	...	...	0	0	10
"	"	...	Coals	...	...	...	...	0	3	6
"	"	...	Fowls	...	...	...	...	0	4	8
21st	"	...	Porter	...	...	...	...	0	0	2
22nd	"	...	Tea	...	...	...	...	0	6	0
"	"	...	Baker's Bill	...	...	...	...	0	4	9
24th	"	...	Butter Bill	...	...	...	...	0	5	0
"	"	...	Meat	...	...	...	...	0	5	0
26th	"	...	Oil	...	...	...	...	0	1	6
"	"	...	Coach	...	...	...	...	0	1	0
27th	"	...	Fowls	...	...	...	...	0	4	8
"	"	...	Scowering paper	...	...	...	...	0	0	2
"	"	...	Letters	...	...	...	...	0	0	8
"	"	...	Brickdust	...	...	...	...	0	0	2
28th	"	...	Brush	...	...	...	...	0	2	0
"	"	...	Segers	...	...	...	...	0	2	6
29th	"	...	Meat	...	...	...	...	0	3	0
"	"	...	Coach	...	...	...	...	0	1	0

29th	Nov.	...	Baker's Bill	...	...	...	...	£0	4	9
30th	"	...	Butter Bill	...	...	...	...	0	4	5
31st	"	...	Milk	...	...	...	...	0	4	3
1st	Dec.	...	Gardener	...	...	...	...	0	2	4
2nd	"	...	Candles	...	...	...	...	0	1	11
"	"	...	Coach	...	...	...	...	0	1	0
"	"	...	Fowls	...	...	...	...	0	4	8
3rd	"	...	Soap	...	...	...	...	0	2	0
"	"	...	Blue	...	...	...	...	0	1	0
4th	"	...	Coach	...	...	...	...	0	1	0
"	"	...	Lamb	...	...	...	...	0	4	0
"	"	...	Powder, Pomatum, &c.	...	...	...	...	0	1	9
5th	"	...	Orranges	...	...	...	...	0	0	6 $\frac{1}{2}$
"	"	...	Tea	...	...	...	...	0	6	0
"	"	...	Mrs. Jones	...	...	...	...	3	3	0
"	"	...	Butcher	...	...	...	...	0	5	0 $\frac{1}{2}$
"	"	...	Coach	...	...	...	...	0	1	0
6th	"	...	Baker	...	...	...	...	0	4	4 $\frac{1}{2}$
"	"	...	Butter Man	...	...	...	...	0	4	9 $\frac{1}{2}$
7th	"	...	Gardener	...	...	...	...	0	2	0 $\frac{1}{2}$
"	"	...	Milk	...	...	...	...	0	2	6
"	"	...	Vinegar...	...	...	...	...	0	0	9
"	"	...	Saycepan	...	...	...	...	0	0	6
"	"	...	Wood	...	...	...	...	0	1	0
"	"	...	Kitchen Candles	...	...	...	...	0	0	8 $\frac{1}{2}$
"	"	...	Pork	...	...	...	...	0	1	0
8th	"	...	Needles	...	...	...	...	0	0	1
"	"	...	Eggs	...	...	...	...	0	0	4
9th	"	...	Muffins, &c.	...	...	...	...	0	0	3
"	"	...	Meat	...	...	...	...	0	2	11
10th	"	...	A Fowl	...	...	...	...	0	1	0
"	"	...	Barly	...	...	...	...	0	0	6
"	"	...	Bird	...	...	...	...	0	8	0
11th	"	...	Beef	...	...	...	...	0	3	7 $\frac{1}{2}$
"	"	...	Flanel	...	...	...	...	0	0	10
"	"	...	Scrubbing Brush	...	...	...	...	0	0	7
12th	"	...	Fowls	...	...	...	...	0	5	0
"	"	...	Veal	...	...	...	...	0	2	0
13th	"	...	Blacklead	...	...	...	...	0	0	4
"	"	...	Mustard	...	...	...	...	0	1	3
"	"	...	Scowering Paper	...	...	...	...	0	0	1
"	"	...	Paid Nelly	...	...	...	...	1	19	10
"	"	...	Paid Molly	...	...	...	...	2	3	11
"	"	...	Baker's Bill	...	...	...	...	0	4	2 $\frac{1}{2}$
"	"	...	Butter Bill	...	...	...	...	0	4	1 $\frac{1}{2}$
"	"	...	Milk	...	...	...	...	0	2	3
14th	"	...	Gardener	...	...	...	...	0	1	9
"	"	...	Pins	...	...	...	...	0	0	2
"	"	...	Muffins	...	...	...	...	0	0	3
15th	"	...	Table Cloaths, Dusters, &c., &c.	...	...	...	...	3	9	0
"	"	...	Meat	...	...	...	...	0	2	11
16th	"	...	Fowls	...	...	...	...	0	4	0
"	"	...	Lamb	...	...	...	...	0	3	6 $\frac{1}{2}$
17th	"	...	Apples	...	...	...	...	0	0	2
"	"	...	Porter	...	...	...	...	0	0	3 $\frac{1}{2}$
"	"	...	Oysters	...	...	...	...	0	1	0
"	"	...	Fish	...	...	...	...	0	2	6
18th	"	...	Tea	...	...	...	...	0	12	0
19th	"	...	Scowering Papper	...	...	...	...	0	0	1 $\frac{1}{2}$
"	"	...	Milkman	...	...	...	...	0	2	6
"	"	...	Baker's Bill	...	...	...	...	0	3	11 $\frac{1}{2}$



19th	Dec.	...	Butter Bill, Pork, &c.	...	...	...	£0	4	10 $\frac{1}{2}$
20th	"	...	Gardener	...	...	...	0	2	0 $\frac{1}{2}$
"	"	...	A Leg of Mutton	...	...	...	0	3	7
"	"	...	Oatmail	...	...	...	0	0	3
21st	"	...	Muffins	...	...	...	0	0	3
"	"	...	Oil	...	...	...	0	1	6
22nd	"	...	Soap, Starch, &c., &c.	...	...	...	0	2	0 $\frac{1}{2}$
"	"	...	Meat	...	...	...	0	2	7 $\frac{1}{2}$
23rd	"	...	Mr. Fry	...	...	...	0	0	3
"	"	...	Fowls	...	...	...	0	4	6
"	"	...	Orranges	...	...	...	0	0	2
25th	"	...	Letters	...	...	...	0	0	4
"	"	...	Beef	...	...	...	0	7	11
"	"	...	Pork	...	...	...	0	2	9
"	"	...	Coach	...	...	...	0	2	0
26th	"	...	Wood	...	...	...	0	1	0
"	"	...	Meat	...	...	...	0	2	4
27th	"	...	Thread, &c.	...	...	...	0	0	2
"	"	...	Suggar	...	...	...	0	9	0
28th	"	...	Fowls	...	...	...	0	7	3
"	"	...	Padrole	...	...	...	0	5	0
"	"	...	Mangle	...	...	...	0	1	4
"	"	...	Musling	...	...	...	0	2	6
29th	"	...	Edgeing	...	...	...	0	1	4
"	"	...	Brewer	...	...	...	0	2	0
"	"	...	Mutton	...	...	...	0	3	3
"	"	...	Oil	...	...	...	0	3	0
"	"	...	Baker	...	...	...	0	4	9
"	"	...	Butter, &c., &c.	...	...	...	0	5	4
"	"	...	Milk	...	...	...	0	2	9
30th	"	...	Orranges	...	...	...	0	0	2 $\frac{1}{2}$
"	"	...	Candles	...	...	...	0	2	7 $\frac{1}{2}$
"	"	...	Wood	...	...	...	0	1	0
"	"	...	Paper	...	...	...	0	1	0
"	"	...	Birch Broom	...	...	...	0	0	2 $\frac{1}{2}$
31st	"	...	Muffins	...	...	...	0	0	3
"	"	...	Bell Man	...	...	...	0	0	2
1785.									
1st	Jan.	...	Butcher's Boy	...	...	...	0	1	0
"	"	...	Candles	...	...	...	0	1	3
"	"	...	Milk	...	...	...	0	2	5
"	"	...	Lace	...	...	...	0	1	6
2nd	"	...	Vinegar	...	...	...	0	0	10
"	"	...	Soult	...	...	...	0	1	0
"	"	...	Muffins	...	...	...	0	0	3
"	"	...	Bacon	...	...	...	0	2	0
3rd	"	...	Apples	...	...	...	0	0	4
"	"	...	Wrighting Paper	...	...	...	0	1	0
"	"	...	Magazines	...	...	...	0	1	0
4th	"	...	Fowls	...	...	...	0	7	6
"	"	...	Muffins	...	...	...	0	0	3
"	"	...	Snuf	...	...	...	0	0	2 $\frac{1}{2}$
5th	"	...	Bell Man	...	...	...	0	0	4
"	"	...	Mangle	...	...	...	0	0	3
"	"	...	Paper	...	...	...	0	0	6
6th	"	...	Wood	...	...	...	0	1	0
"	"	...	Suggar	...	...	...	0	1	0
"	"	...	Meat	...	...	...	0	4	0
"	"	...	Baker's Bill	...	...	...	0	4	10 $\frac{1}{2}$
"	"	...	Butter Bill, Pork, &c.	...	...	...	0	6	0
7th	"	...	Candles	...	...	...	0	1	9 $\frac{1}{2}$

7th Jan.	...	Starch, &c.	...	...	...	...	£0	0	10
"	"	Milk	...	...	...	...	0	2	0 $\frac{1}{2}$
8th	"	Coach	...	...	...	...	0	1	0
"	"	Blue	...	...	...	...	0	1	0 $\frac{1}{2}$
"	"	Meat	...	...	...	...	0	6	0
9th	"	Fowls	...	...	...	...	0	4	0
"	"	Wood	...	...	...	...	0	1	0
"	"	Mr. Birks	...	...	...	...	0	15	10
"	"	Coach	...	...	...	...	0	1	0
10th	"	Matches	...	...	...	...	0	0	1
"	"	Muffins	...	...	...	...	0	0	3
11th	"	Paid N. for Muffins	...	...	...	...	0	0	9
"	"	Bell Man	...	...	...	...	0	0	4
12th	"	Post Man	...	...	...	...	0	0	7
"	"	Meat	...	...	...	...	0	4	0
"	"	Lamp Oil	...	...	...	...	0	1	0
13th	"	Muffins	...	...	...	...	0	0	3
14th	"	Candles	...	...	...	...	0	1	9
"	"	Fowls	...	...	...	...	0	4	8
15th	"	A Leg of Mutton	...	...	...	...	0	3	2
"	"	A Quarter of Tea	...	...	...	...	0	3	0
"	"	The Brown Sugar	...	...	...	...	0	1	6
16th	"	Coach	...	...	...	...	0	1	0
"	"	Baker's Bill	...	...	...	...	0	4	9
"	"	Butter, &c.	...	...	...	...	0	5	0
17th	"	Gardener	...	...	...	...	0	2	3
"	"	Milk	...	...	...	...	0	2	4
"	"	Muffins	...	...	...	...	0	0	6
18th	"	Beef	...	...	...	...	0	3	10
"	"	Fowls	...	...	...	...	0	4	6
"	"	Muffins	...	...	...	...	0	0	3
19th	"	Chimney Sweeper	...	...	...	...	0	0	6
"	"	Coach	...	...	...	...	0	1	0
20th	"	Wood	...	...	...	...	0	1	0
21st	"	Muffins	...	...	...	...	0	0	3
"	"	Meat	...	...	...	...	0	4	0
22nd	"	A Leg of Mutton & Stakes	...	...	...	...	0	7	0
"	"	Fowls	...	...	...	...	0	0	10
"	"	Groats, Oatmeal, Pins, &c.	...	...	...	...	0	0	10
"	"	Muffins	...	...	...	...	0	0	3
"	"	Half a Pound of Tea	...	...	...	...	0	6	0
23rd	"	Trencher Dish, &c.	...	...	...	...	0	0	11
"	"	Nutmeg, spice, &c.	...	...	...	...	0	0	1
"	"	Muffins	...	...	...	...	0	0	3
"	"	Candles	...	...	...	...	0	3	0
24th	"	Baker	...	...	...	...	0	4	5 $\frac{1}{2}$
"	"	Butter Man	...	...	...	...	0	5	6
"	"	Gardener	...	...	...	...	0	3	0
"	"	Milk	...	...	...	...	0	2	11
25th	"	Soap, Starch, &c.	...	...	...	...	0	2	0
"	"	Paid the Brewer	...	...	...	...	2	9	0
"	"	Coach	...	...	...	...	0	2	0
"	"	Meat	...	...	...	...	0	4	0
26th	"	Scowering Paper, &c.	...	...	...	...	0	0	2
"	"	Black Lead	...	...	...	...	0	0	3
"	"	Wood	...	...	...	...	0	1	0
"	"	Coals	...	...	...	...	0	1	0
"	"	Muffins	...	...	...	...	0	0	3
"	"	Brick Dust	...	...	...	...	0	0	1
27th	"	Eggs	...	...	...	...	0	0	4
"	"	2 Oranges	...	...	...	...	0	0	3



27th Jan.	...	Coach	...	...	...	...	£0	1	0
28th	"	Lamp Oil	...	...	...	...	0	2	0
"	"	Gown	...	...	...	...	2	12	6
"	"	Baker's Bill	...	...	...	...	0	4	9
"	"	Butter Bill	...	...	...	...	0	5	3
"	"	Gardener	...	...	...	...	0	2	5
"	"	Milk	...	...	...	...	0	2	6½
"	"	Coach	...	...	...	...	0	2	0
29th	"	Wood	...	...	...	...	0	1	0
"	"	Candles	...	...	...	...	0	2	0
"	"	Meat	...	...	...	...	0	5	0
"	"	Muffins	...	...	...	...	0	0	6
"	"	Fowles	...	...	...	...	0	4	10
30th	"	Lamp Oil	...	...	...	...	0	3	0
"	"	Apples, 2	...	...	...	...	0	0	3
31st	"	Mutton, a Leg	...	...	...	...	0	4	0
1st Feb.	...	Parsley	...	...	...	...	0	0	1
2nd	"	Coach	...	...	...	...	0	1	0
3rd	"	Birch Broom	...	...	...	...	0	0	2
4th	"	2 Fowls	...	...	...	...	0	5	6
"	"	Miss Harkwood, Coach, &c.	...	...	...	...	0	8	0
"	"	Orranges, Muffins	...	...	...	...	0	0	6
"	"	Baker's Bill	...	...	...	...	0	5	0
5th	"	Butter	...	...	...	...	0	4	9
"	"	Candles	...	...	...	...	0	2	6
"	"	Coach	...	...	...	...	0	1	0
6th	"	Gardener	...	...	...	...	0	2	0
"	"	Milk	...	...	...	...	0	2	3
"	"	Black Lead	...	...	...	...	0	0	2
7th	"	Meat	...	...	...	...	0	6	0
"	"	Fowls	...	...	...	...	0	2	10
"	"	Pin, Thread, &c.	...	...	...	...	0	0	4
8th	"	Beer	...	...	...	...	0	3	6
"	"	Lamp Oil	...	...	...	...	0	2	0
"	"	Soap, Starch, &c.	...	...	...	...	0	2	11
9th	"	Wood	...	...	...	...	0	1	0
"	"	A Leg of Mutton	...	...	...	...	0	2	6
"	"	Sugger	...	...	...	...	0	6	1½
10th	"	Baker's Bill, for Bread	...	...	...	...	0	4	0
"	"	Coach	...	...	...	...	0	1	0
11th	"	Butter	...	...	...	...	0	4	9½
"	"	Muffins, Paid to Nancy	...	...	...	...	0	1	0
12th	"	Mopp	...	...	...	...	0	1	0
"	"	Orranges	...	...	...	...	0	0	2
13th	"	Milk	...	...	...	...	0	2	1½
14th	"	Fowls	...	...	...	...	0	4	0
"	"	Coach	...	...	...	...	0	1	0
"	"	Paper	...	...	...	...	0	0	6
"	"	Magazines	...	...	...	...	0	2	0
15th	"	Eggs	...	...	...	...	0	0	6
"	"	Wood	...	...	...	...	0	1	0
"	"	Brick Dust	...	...	...	...	0	0	2
16th	"	Apples	...	...	...	...	0	0	6
17th	"	Beef Stakes, Mutton, &c.	...	...	...	...	0	4	0
"	"	Beer	...	...	...	...	0	3	6
"	"	Porter at different times	...	...	...	...	0	1	2
18th	"	Oil & Mustard	...	...	...	...	0	0	9
"	"	Pepper	...	...	...	...	0	0	3
"	"	Cotton for Mending Stockings	...	...	...	...	0	0	2
19th	"	Apples	...	...	...	...	0	0	6
"	"	Kitchings' Candles	...	...	...	...	0	1	2

19th	Feb.	...	Brown Suggest	...	...	...	...	...	£0	0	6
"	"	...	A Nutmeg	...	...	...	...	...	0	0	1 $\frac{1}{2}$
"	"	...	Meat	...	...	...	...	...	0	3	11 $\frac{1}{2}$
21st	"	...	Coach	...	...	...	...	...	0	2	0
"	"	...	Baker's Bill	...	...	...	...	...	0	3	11
"	"	...	Gauze	...	...	...	...	...	0	1	9
"	"	...	Butter Bill	...	...	...	...	...	0	4	9

MONEY RECEIVED FROM OCTOBER 27, 1784.

27th	Oct.	...	Received	...	...	...	...	...	5	5	0
"	"	...	Received	...	...	...	...	...	8	8	0
29th	"	...	Received	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	0
11th	Nov.	...	Received	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	0
"	"	...	Received	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	0
13th	"	...	Received	...	...	...	...	...	8	8	0
16th	"	...	Received	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	0
20th	"	...	Received	...	...	...	...	...	1	10	6
29th	"	...	Received	...	...	...	...	...	5	5	0
3rd	Dec.	...	Received	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	0
"	"	...	Received	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	0
8th	"	...	Received	...	...	...	...	...	5	5	0
11th	"	...	Received	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	0
13th	"	...	Received	...	...	...	...	...	3	3	0
16th	"	...	Received	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	0
20th	"	...	Received	...	...	...	...	...	5	5	0
9th	Jan.	...	Received	...	...	...	...	...	5	5	0
20th	"	...	Received	...	...	...	...	...	5	5	0
29th	"	...	Received	...	...	...	...	...	5	5	0
7th	Feb.	...	Received	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	0
"	"	...	Received	...	...	...	...	...	5	5	0
Paid Molly Dring			...	...	...	...	...	...	2	3	11
Paid Nelly Gray			...	...	...	...	...	...	1	19	10

The Thirteenth of December, 1784.

Molly Lunn came here the 13th of December, 1784.

Ann Murphy came here the 13th of December, 1784.









Dr.

CAPTAIN HORATIO NELSON in Account

								£	s.	d.
[Brought forward]										
1796.										
31st Jan.	...	To Balance carried to New Account	...	...	...	...	...	155	15	0
								£1,152 17 9		

1796.										
5th April	...	To paid your Bill to Tho <sup>s</sup> Pollard	...	...	...	...	...	£100	0	0
19th "	...	To Bank Post Bills sent Mrs. Nelson	...	...	...	...	...	100	0	0
" "	...	To paid your Subscript <sup>n</sup> to Navy Society	...	...	...	...	...	3	3	0
10th May	...	To paid your Bill to M. M. Fellows	...	...	...	...	...	30	0	0
		To paid the remainder of usual fees passing Accounts,								
		<i>Agamemnon</i>	...	...	...	...	£8	0	6	
		Fees Certifying Surg <sup>'s</sup> Necessaries	...	...	...	...	0	10	0	
		" report <sup>s</sup> Purser's Certif <sup>te</sup> Imperfect	...	...	...	...	0	2	6	
		" Certificate of Commission	...	...	...	...	0	2	6	
								8	15	6
		To paid postage	...	...	...	...	...	0	3	9
		To Balance carried to New Account	...	...	...	...	...	574	3	0
								£816 5 3		

3rd Aug.	...	To paid your Bill to Rev <sup>d</sup> Nelson	...	...	...	...	...	£100	0	0
1st Sept.	...	To ditto to Jos. Brame	...	...	...	...	...	50	0	0
" "	...	To ditto to Heath & C <sup>o</sup>	...	...	...	...	...	50	0	0
22nd Oct.	...	To ditto to d <sup>o</sup>	...	...	...	...	...	44	11	4
" "	...	To paid L. Remour's Bill to yourself	...	...	...	...	...	10	0	0
16th Nov.	...	To paid C. Cox one year's Subscript <sup>n</sup> to the Marine Widows' Fund,								
		to 30th June, 1796	...	...	...	...	...	10	0	0
22nd "	...	To paid your Bill to Heath & C <sup>o</sup>	...	...	...	...	...	50	0	0
1797.										
16th Jan.	...	To ditto to Turnbull & C <sup>o</sup>	...	...	...	...	...	50	10	0
12th March		To ditto to Han. Sidman	...	...	...	...	...	10	10	0
27th "		To ditto to Hble. Fred <sup>k</sup> North	...	...	...	...	...	65	0	0
25th "		To ditto L. Rumour's Bill to yourself	...	...	...	...	...	10	0	0
29th "		To paid your Bill to R <sup>d</sup> Polhill	...	...	...	...	...	6	0	0
		To paid postage	...	...	...	...	...	0	12	8
		To Balance carried to New Account	...	...	...	...	...	2,563	2	0
								£3,020 6 0		

## Current with MESSRS. MARSH &amp; CREED.

Dr.

		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1795.	[Brought forward]						
12th Sept....	By John M <sup>c</sup> Arthur's Bill on De Vesme & C <sup>o</sup> ...	248	3	9			
11th Nov....	By your Pay as Coln <sup>l</sup> of Marines, 1st Sept. & 30th Nov., 1795 ...	136	10	0			
1796.							
13th Jan. ...	By Int <sup>t</sup> on 300 <i>l</i> . 5 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub> C <sup>ts</sup> to 5th Jan., '96 ...	7	10	0			
	Comm <sup>n</sup> ...	392	3	9			
		3	1	3			
					389	2	6
					£1,152	17	9
1796.							
31st Jan. ...	By Balance from last Account ...	...	...	...	£155	15	0
16th Feb. ...	By your pay as Coln <sup>l</sup> Marines, 1st & 31st Dec., 1795...	£46	10	0			
" " ...	By ditto, 1st Jan. & 29th Feb., 1796 ...	90	0	0			
		136	10	0			
	Comm <sup>n</sup> ...	1	14	3			
					134	15	9
10th March	By <i>Agamemnon</i> , his Wages, 31st Jan., 1793, & 30th Jan., 1795 ...	485	18	6			
	Compensation for Servants ...	46	15	6			
		532	14	0			
	Comm <sup>n</sup> ...	£13	6	6			
	L. O. ...	1	1	0			
		14	7	6			
					518	6	6
9th July ...	By Int <sup>t</sup> on 300 <i>l</i> . 5 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub> C <sup>ts</sup> to 5th July, '96 ...	7	10	0			
	Comm <sup>n</sup> ...	0	2	0			
					7	8	0
					£816	5	3
28th Sept....	By Balance from the above Account ...	...	...	...	£574	3	0
	By your pay as Coln <sup>l</sup> Marines, 1st March & 30th June, 1796 ...	£183	0	0			
	Comm <sup>n</sup> ...	2	5	9			
					180	14	3
1797.							
14th Jan. ...	By Int <sup>t</sup> on 300 <i>l</i> . 5 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub> C <sup>ts</sup> to 5th Jan., '97 ...	7	10	0			
	Comm <sup>n</sup> ...	0	2	0			
					7	8	0
24th " ...	By your pay as Coln <sup>l</sup> Marines, 1st July & 31st Dec., 1796	276	0	0			
	Arrears 1st June & d <sup>o</sup> ...	84	8	6			
25th " ...	By Allowance for Stationary ...	15	0	0			
		375	8	6			
	Comm <sup>n</sup> ...	4	13	9			
					370	14	9
26th Feb. ...	By <i>Agamemnon</i> , L. Remonier's Wages ...	75	11	6			
	Comm <sup>n</sup> ...	1	18	0			
					73	13	6
6th March...	By F. North's Bill on W. Hammond ...	16	0	0			
	Comm <sup>n</sup> ...	0	1	6			
					15	18	6
18th April...	By J. Buckholm's Bill on Treasury ...	1,806	14	0			
	Comm <sup>n</sup> ...	9	0	0			
					1,797	14	0
					£3,020	6	0





1797-98.]

## NELSON PAPERS.

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Account Current with MESSRS. MARSH &amp; CREED.

Cr.

1797.						£	s.	d.
	By Balance from the above Account	...	...	...	...	£2,563	2	0
18th April...	By Interest on J. Buckholm's Bill on Treasury	...	...	...	...	1	9	7
20th May ...	By Jam <sup>s</sup> Ogle's Bill on Mackay & C <sup>o</sup>	...	...	...	£78	4	2	
22nd June...	By your pay as Coln <sup>l</sup> Marines, 1st Jan. & 28th Feb., 1797	...	...	...	88	10	0	
13th July ...	By Int <sup>t</sup> on 300 <i>l.</i> 5 <i>Ɔ</i> C <sup>ts</sup> to 5th July, 1797	...	...	...	7	10	0	
	By Int <sup>t</sup> on 3,473 <i>l.</i> 16 <i>s.</i> 3 <i>d.</i> 3 <i>Ɔ</i> C <sup>ts</sup> to d <sup>o</sup>	...	...	...	52	2	1	
	By Flag pay, 10th Aug., 1796, & 18th April, 1797	...	...	...	435	9	9	
	Compensat <sup>n</sup> for Serv <sup>ts</sup>	...	...	...	129	7	6	
					791	3	6	
	Comm <sup>n</sup>	...	...	...	16	7	9	
								774 15 9
20th July ...	By your Prize Money <i>S<sup>t</sup> Natolia</i>	...	...	...	...	...	...	600 14 0
3rd Nov. ...	By your Flag pay, &c., 12th Aug., '96, & 3rd Sept., 1797	...	...	...	886	8	0	
	Abate Drawen for	...	...	...	580	10	0	
					305	18	0	
	Comm <sup>n</sup>	...	...	...	7	13	0	
								298 5 0
19th April...	By purchased 3,473 <i>l.</i> 16 <i>s.</i> 3 <i>d.</i> 3 <i>Ɔ</i> C <sup>t</sup> Con <sup>s</sup> , at 51 $\frac{3}{8}$ <i>Ɔ</i> c <sup>t</sup>	...	...	...	1,784	13	6	
	Brok <sup>ge</sup>	...	...	...	£4	6	10	
	Comm <sup>n</sup>	...	...	...	8	13	8	
					13	0	6	
								1,797 14
26th Nov....	By <i>Agamemnon</i> , your Wages, 1st July, 1795, & 10th	...	...	...	...	...	...	
	June, 1796	...	...	...	328	8	0	
	Servants	...	...	...	576	5	6	
					904	13	6	
	Comm <sup>n</sup>	...	...	...	22	12	6	
								882 1 0
								£6,918 1 4
	By Balance from the above Account	...	...	...	...	£2,247	12	3
15th Dec. ...	By your Prize Money, <i>San Joseph</i>	...	...	...	£102	16	0	
1798.								
18th Jan. ...	By Int <sup>t</sup> on 300 <i>l.</i> 5 <i>Ɔ</i> C <sup>ts</sup> to 5th Jan., '98	...	...	...	7	10	0	
					110	6	0	
	Comm <sup>n</sup>	...	...	...	2	13	0	
								107 13 0
26th Feb. ...	By your Prize Money, <i>Virgin de la Regula. Raphel &amp;</i>	...	...	...	95	0	0	
	<i>Maria Joseph</i>	...	...	...	125	0	0	
„ „ ...	By ditto d <sup>o</sup> <i>Mahonesa</i>	...	...	...	220	0	0	
					5	10	0	
	Comm <sup>n</sup>	...	...	...				214 10 0
15th March	By your Arrears of Pay as Coln <sup>l</sup> Marines, 1st Jan. &	...	...	...	144	8	0	
	31st Dec., 1796	...	...	...	1	16	0	
	Comm <sup>n</sup>	...	...	...				142 12 0
								180 0 0
23rd „	By Cash Bank Notes	...	...	...	...	...	...	3 15 0
4th April ...	By Tho <sup>s</sup> Ramsay's Prize Money of Cook & Halford	...	...	...	77	9	9	
5th „ ...	By Half-pay, 14th Dec., 1797, & 15th March, 1798	...	...	...	1	18	6	
	Comm <sup>n</sup>	...	...	...				75 11 3









Dr.

THE RT. HON. ADMIRAL HORATIO, LORD NELSON, K.B., *in*

							£	s.	d.
1799.									
19th Nov. ...	To paid Will <sup>m</sup> Nelson, $\text{p}^{\text{d}}$ Rec <sup>t</sup> ...						500	0	0
20th „ ...	To Tho <sup>s</sup> Bolton's Bill to Sam <sup>l</sup> Lane, 26th Nov. ...						100	0	0
22nd „ ...	To ditto to Rev <sup>d</sup> F. Barnes, 28th d <sup>o</sup> ...						62	10	0
23rd „ ...	To ditto to Rev <sup>d</sup> Jn <sup>o</sup> Partridge, 29th d <sup>o</sup> ...						137	10	0
„ „ ...	To 1 <sup>st</sup> Bill to John Tyson, 26th Dec. ...						549	1	8
16th „ ...	To Cash to Mr. Maurice Nelson ...						500	0	0
29th „ ...	To 1 <sup>st</sup> Bill to Abraham Gibbs, 1st Jan., 1800 ...						170	0	0
3rd Dec. ...	To Bought 3,000 <i>l.</i> 5 $\text{p}^{\text{d}}$ C <sup>ts</sup> 1797 at 91 $\frac{3}{4}$ $\text{p}^{\text{d}}$ c <sup>t</sup> ...	£2,752	10	0					
	Paid Broker ...		3	15	0				
							2,756	5	0
„ „ ...	To Bought 5,000 <i>l.</i> 3 $\text{p}^{\text{d}}$ C <sup>t</sup> Con <sup>s</sup> at 62 $\frac{3}{4}$ $\text{p}^{\text{d}}$ c <sup>t</sup> ...	3,137	10	0					
	Paid Broker ...		6	5	0				
							3,143	15	0
13th „ ...	To 1 <sup>st</sup> Bill to Abraham Gibbs, 15th Jan. ...		300	0	0				
18th „ ...	To Bought $\frac{1}{4}$ Lott. Tick <sup>t</sup> , N <sup>s</sup> 6346, 12156 (18 <i>l.</i> ), 23017, & 46419 (18 <i>l.</i> ), at 4 <i>l.</i> 2 <i>s.</i> 0 <i>d.</i> , Regis <sup>s</sup> 2 <i>s.</i> ...						16	10	0
19th „ ...	To paid Mess <sup>rs</sup> Lefevre & C <sup>o</sup> , on Acc <sup>t</sup> Geo. Matcham, Esq., $\text{p}^{\text{d}}$ Rec <sup>t</sup> ...		500	0	0				
26th „ ...	To postage at times, 5 <i>s.</i> 8 <i>d.</i> , Stamps for Rec <sup>ts</sup> , 6 <i>s.</i> ...			0	11	8			
	To Balance carried to New Account ...		1,349	8	11				
							£10,085	12	3
27th Dec. ...	To Cash paid Marsh, Sibbald, & C <sup>o</sup> ...	£1,000	0	0					
1800.									
2nd Jan. ...	To paid A. Stanhope for Newspapers to 31st Dec. '99 ...		5	10	0				
24th „ ...	To 1 <sup>st</sup> Bill to Abraham Gibbs, 26th Feb. ...		500	0	0				
25th „ ...	To 1 <sup>st</sup> Bill to ditto 27th d <sup>o</sup> ...		376	18	9				
17th March	To paid Ann <sup>l</sup> Subscript <sup>n</sup> to Marine Society, $\text{p}^{\text{d}}$ Rec <sup>t</sup> ...		2	2	0				
24th „	To 1 <sup>st</sup> Bill to Abraham Gibbs, 26th April ...		60	0	0				
„ „	To 2 <sup>nd</sup> Bill to John Tyson d <sup>o</sup> ...		500	0	0				
26th „	To Commiss <sup>n</sup> on 1,000 <i>l.</i> Received from B <sup>n</sup> Tucker ...		25	0	0				
	To ditto on 87 <i>l.</i> 14 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> , Wages received ...		2	4	0				
1st April ...	To paid Bunny & Gold for <i>Naval Chronicle</i> to this date ...		2	3	6				
4th „ ...	To 1 <sup>st</sup> Bill to Abraham Gibbs, 7th May ...		506	13	0				
7th May ...	To paid R <sup>d</sup> Clarke & Son for a Gold Sword, &c. ...		114	11	3				
26th May ...	To 1 <sup>st</sup> Bill to Abraham Gibbs, 28th June ...		500	0	0				
3rd June ...	To 1 <sup>st</sup> Bill to John Tyson, 5th Aug. ...		500	0	0				
26th „ ...	To 1 <sup>st</sup> Bill to Abraham Gibbs, 29th July ...		200	0	0				
„ „ ...	To 1 <sup>st</sup> Bill to ditto 29th d <sup>o</sup> ...		300	0	0				
„ „ ...	To Cash paid Marsh, Sibbald, & C <sup>o</sup> , $\text{p}^{\text{d}}$ Rec <sup>t</sup> ...		700	0	0				
30th „ ...	To 1 <sup>st</sup> Bill to Abraham Gibbs, 2nd Aug. ...		490	0	0				
„ „ ...	To ditto to ditto 2nd d <sup>o</sup> ...		510	0	0				
7th July ...	To paid A. Stanhope for Newspapers to 5th inst ...		5	13	6				
14th „ ...	To 1 <sup>st</sup> Bill by Capt <sup>n</sup> J. Nisbet to Murdoch & C <sup>o</sup> for Wine sent on board the <i>Thalia</i> , 16th Aug. ...		42	10	0				
31st „ ...	To 1 <sup>st</sup> Bill to John Tyson, 2nd Sept. ...		500	0	0				
6th Aug. ...	To paid Cha <sup>s</sup> E. Cox remaining half Subscript <sup>n</sup> to the Proof Prints of Battle of the Nile ...		15	15	0				
25th Sept. ...	To 1 <sup>st</sup> Bill to Jam <sup>s</sup> Anderson, 28th Oct. ...		150	0	0				
2nd Oct. ...	To Cash paid J. C. Cooke on Account of Duties on Baggage, &c. ...		350	0	0				
8th „ ...	To paid Bill to Hoffenheimer & Kerr ...		260	0	0				
„ „ ...	To ditto to ditto ...		240	0	0				
11th „ ...	To 1 <sup>st</sup> Bill to Alex <sup>r</sup> Cormelati, 29th Oct. ...		100	0	0				
21st „ ...	To paid John Jackson for over payment on Flag shares for 5 French Prizes, Captured 18th June, 1799 ...		48	3	5				
			£8,007	4	5				

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*Cr.*

[illegible]



Dr.

THE RT. HON. ADMIRAL HORATIO, LORD NELSON, K.B., *in*

							£	s.	d.
1800.									
10th Oct. ...	To Balance from last Account ...	...	...	...	...	...	2,148	16	0
16th " ...	To paid 1 <sup>st</sup> Bill to John Tyson ...	...	...	...	...	...	500	0	0
30th " ...	To 1 <sup>st</sup> Bill to Ofenheimer & Hertz, 7th Nov. ...	...	...	...	...	...	100	0	0
" " ...	To 1 <sup>st</sup> Bill to ditto 4th " ...	...	...	...	...	...	200	0	0
" " ...	To 1 <sup>st</sup> Bill to ditto 4th " ...	...	...	...	...	...	300	0	0
31st " ...	To 1 <sup>st</sup> Bill to H. G. Bassenge & C <sup>o</sup> , 12th " ...	...	...	...	...	...	100	0	0
7th Nov. ...	To 1 <sup>st</sup> Bill to ditto 12th " ...	...	...	...	...	...	50	0	0
8th " ...	To 1 <sup>st</sup> Bill to Roecke & C <sup>o</sup> , 11th Dec. ...	...	...	...	...	...	400	0	0
10th " ...	To 1 <sup>st</sup> Bill to H. G. Bassenge & C <sup>o</sup> ...	...	...	...	...	...	100	0	0
12th " ...	To paid Draft to Will <sup>m</sup> Rultan ...	...	...	...	...	...	50	0	0
13th " ...	To 1 <sup>st</sup> Bill to Roecke & C <sup>o</sup> , 16th Dec. ...	...	...	...	...	...	400	0	0
15th " ...	To paid Draft to Mr. Oliver ...	...	...	...	...	...	34	10	9
18th " ...	To 1 <sup>st</sup> Bill to Roecke & C <sup>o</sup> , 21st Dec. ...	...	...	...	...	...	90	0	0
" " ...	To 1 <sup>st</sup> Bill to ditto 21st " ...	...	...	...	...	...	418	2	0
" " ...	To paid S <sup>r</sup> Ja <sup>s</sup> Esdaile & C <sup>o</sup> on Acc <sup>t</sup> R <sup>t</sup> Warmington & C <sup>o</sup> ...	...	...	...	...	...	287	6	0
" " ...	To Interest at 5 % c <sup>t</sup> ...	...	...	...	...	...	26	5	10
" " ...	To Postage at times ...	...	...	...	...	...	1	3	6
							£5,206	4	1
18th Nov. ...							£4,706	6	7
22nd " ...	To Bank Power for Sale of 5,000 <sup>l</sup> . Consols ...	...	...	...	...	...	0	11	6
" " ...	To ditto d <sup>o</sup> 3,000 <sup>l</sup> . 5 % C <sup>t</sup> 1797 ...	...	...	...	...	...	0	11	6
1st Dec. ...	To paid Bill by John Coleman to Thornton & C <sup>o</sup> ...	...	...	...	...	...	6	9	0
3rd " ...	To paid Draft to Heries & C <sup>o</sup> , Acc <sup>t</sup> Spen <sup>r</sup> Smith, Esq <sup>r</sup> ...	...	...	...	...	...	95	0	0
9th " ...	To Cash paid Marsh, Sibbald, & C <sup>o</sup> ...	...	...	...	...	...	850	0	0
17th " ...	To paid Tho <sup>s</sup> Spencer, & Stamp ...	...	...	...	...	...	74	2	0
18th " ...	To paid Draft to Tho <sup>s</sup> Allen ...	...	...	...	...	...	95	0	0
20th " ...	To paid Bill on you by Ofenheimer & Hertz ...	...	...	...	...	...	113	19	0
1801.									
5th Jan. ...	To paid for Adm <sup>ty</sup> Commission ...	...	...	...	...	...	5	7	6
7th " ...	To paid Draft to Will <sup>m</sup> Nelson ...	...	...	...	...	...	50	0	0
9th " ...	To paid John Charnock Subscription to the <i>Biog. Navalis</i> ...	...	...	...	...	...	2	8	0
10th " ...	To Cash ...	...	...	...	...	...	250	0	0
" " ...	To Letter of Attorney ...	...	...	...	...	...	0	11	6
13th " ...	To paid Draft to Mess <sup>rs</sup> Foxall & Fryer ...	...	...	...	...	...	20	0	0
" " ...	To Cash to Lady Nelson... ...	...	...	...	...	...	400	0	0
26th " ...	To paid Bill to John Teed ...	...	...	...	...	...	94	7	4
27th " ...	To Cash supplied by Jos <sup>h</sup> Swaffield ...	...	...	...	...	...	200	0	0
2nd Feb. ...	To Cash paid John Lockyer ...	...	...	...	...	...	250	0	0
14th " ...	To Bought $\frac{1}{4}$ English Lotty. Tick <sup>ts</sup> , N <sup>o</sup> 2951B, N <sup>s</sup> 9308B, 42002 (18 <sup>l</sup> ), & 50416B, at 4 <sup>l</sup> . 10s. 6d., & Regist <sup>s</sup> ...	...	...	...	...	...	18	2	0
25th " ...	To Cash paid Capt <sup>n</sup> Edw <sup>d</sup> T. Parker, & G. Player ...	...	...	...	...	...	50	0	0
17th March	To paid Draft to Lady Hamilton ...	...	...	...	...	...	100	0	0
	To paid Bill on M., P., & C., & Geo. Player ...	...	...	...	...	...	30	16	6
	To paid Subscript <sup>n</sup> to Amicable Navy Society to 31st Dec., 1801 ...	...	...	...	...	...	4	4	0
4th May ...	To 1 <sup>st</sup> Bill to Mess <sup>rs</sup> Belfour & C <sup>o</sup> ...	...	...	...	...	...	124	15	4
7th " ...	To Cash to Whitehead's & C <sup>o</sup> Account of Atwood & C <sup>o</sup> , for the use of Lady Nelson ...	...	...	...	...	...	400	0	0
14th " ...	To paid Fee Adm <sup>ty</sup> . for your Commission as Commander-in-Chief ...	...	...	...	...	...	5	7	6
15th " ...	To 1 <sup>st</sup> Bill to Welsford & C <sup>o</sup> , 21st May ...	...	...	...	...	...	36	14	7
13th June ...	To 1 <sup>st</sup> Bill to Fra <sup>s</sup> Richardson, 26th June ...	...	...	...	...	...	26	6	0
" " ...	To Balance carried to New Account below ...	...	...	...	...	...	494	16	0
							£8,505	15	10

1800-1.]

## NELSON PAPERS.

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Account Current with MESSRS. MARSH, PAGE, &amp; CREED.

Cr.

1800.						£ s. d.		
11th Nov ...	By Exchequer Pension to 5th Sept., 1800	...	...	...	...	£500	0	0
	Stamp ...	...	...	...	...	0	2	6
18th ,, ...	By Balance carried to New Account below	...	...	...	...	...	...	499 17 6
								4,706 6 7
					</			



*Dr.* THE RT. HON. ADMIRAL HORATIO, VISCOUNT NELSON, K.B., Duke of

1801.		£	s.	d.
17th June ...	To 1 <sup>st</sup> Bill by Capt <sup>n</sup> Tho <sup>s</sup> Foley to Solly & C <sup>o</sup> , 2nd July ...	66	7	6
2nd July ...	To 2 Bank Post Bills, 50 <sup>l</sup> . each, sent to Lady Nelson ...	100	0	0
11th " ...	To paid Esdaile & C <sup>o</sup> for Sundries supplied by R. Warmington ...	£50	15	0
" " ...	To ditto for Cash & ditto ...	105	0	0
		155	15	0
17th " ...	To Cash, & Capt <sup>n</sup> Edw <sup>d</sup> T. Parker ...	200	0	0
21st " ...	To 1 <sup>st</sup> Bill to Belfour, Ellah, & C <sup>o</sup> , 3rd Aug. ...	100	0	0
24th " ...	To paid Postage at times ...	1	9	10
	To Balance carried to New Account below ...	3,748	16	2
		£4,372	8	6
31st July ...	To Bank Post Bill sent Lady Nelson ...	£100	0	0
7th Aug. ...	To paid for Admty. Commission as Comm <sup>r</sup> -in-Chief of a Squad <sup>n</sup> on a particular Service ...	5	7	6
24th " ...	To paid John Salter for a Tea Urn, & order ...	65	18	6
29th " ...	To paid Laneville & C <sup>o</sup> for Wines, & d <sup>o</sup> ...	72	2	0
4th Sept. ...	To paid Draft to Mr. Lawrence ...	100	0	0
" " ...	To Cash to Lady Nelson ...	200	0	0
7th " ...	To paid Subscript <sup>n</sup> at Lloyds' towards the Sufferers off Boulogne ...	20	0	0
14th " ...	To Cash paid F. Oliver, & order ...	50	0	0
" " ...	To paid Bill by Belfour & C <sup>o</sup> to Brown & C <sup>o</sup> ...	11	17	4
16th " ...	To paid Bill to Geo. Lawrence ...	100	0	0
18th " ...	To paid Skinner & Dyke, as a Deposit & part payment of 8,000 <sup>l</sup> . for an Estate at Merton ...	800	0	0
21st " ...	To paid Fra <sup>s</sup> Oliver for use of the Farm, & order ...	500	0	0
22nd " ...	To paid Bill to Tho <sup>s</sup> Cross ...	371	0	0
" " ...	To Bill by Offenheimer & C <sup>o</sup> to Harman & C <sup>o</sup> , 2nd April ...	348	0	0
5th Oct. ...	To paid your Bill to Minet & C <sup>o</sup> ...	200	0	0
8th " ...	To paid Booth & Haslewood, in part of Merton Estate, Furniture, &c. ...	6,200	0	0
	Stamp ...	0	2	0
14th " ...	To Bank Post Bill sent Lady Nelson ...	50	0	0
26th " ...	To Cash ...	100	0	0
27th " ...	To Draft to Mr. Lawrance ...	50	0	0
30th " ...	To paid Will <sup>m</sup> Clark's Bill on you ...	85	8	11
3rd Nov. ...	To Cash to Lady Nelson ...	150	0	0
7th " ...	To paid Draft to Burges & C <sup>o</sup> ...	23	13	8
9th " ...	To paid Capt <sup>n</sup> John Conn for a Hhd. Wine ...	22	0	0
" " ...	To paid Draft to John Lothian ...	52	12	9
10th " ...	To Cash ...	100	0	0
" " ...	To paid Draft to W <sup>m</sup> Nichols ...	50	0	0
19th " ...	To Cash, & Tho <sup>s</sup> Allen ...	100	0	0
28th " ...	To paid Tho <sup>s</sup> Botts' Bill for Freight of Packages from Deal ...	7	11	0
7th Dec. ...	To Cash ...	200	0	0
11th " ...	To paid R. H. Westley for Stamps & Binding ...	9	19	6
2nd " ...	To Cash paid Lady Nelson, Allowance to Mich <sup>s</sup> , 1801 ...	200	0	0
12th " ...	To paid Draft to John Slater ...	201	1	0
19th " ...	To Cash ...	200	0	0
21st " ...	To paid Draft to Rob <sup>t</sup> Wright ...	47	1	0
24th " ...	To ditto to Will <sup>m</sup> Nichols ...	140	0	0
" " ...	To paid Mrs. S. Nelson, & order ...	150	0	6
30th " ...	To Cash, & F. Oliver ...	300	0	0
1802.				
5th Jan. ...	To Power for Sale 1,000 <sup>l</sup> . India Stock ...	0	16	6
		£11,384	12	2

Bronté, &amp;c., in Account Current with MESSRS. MARSH, PAGE, &amp; CREED.

Cr.

1801.		£	s.	d.
13th June ...	By Balance from the above Account ... ..	494	16	0
3rd July ...	By Prize Money of R <sup>d</sup> Birt ... ..	£204	4	6
	Comm <sup>n</sup> ... ..	5	2	0
		199 2 6		
8th „ ...	By received of Mr. John Jackson, Balance of Account ... ..	3,171	2	6
9th „ ...	By Div <sup>d</sup> 300 <i>l.</i> 5 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub> C <sup>ts</sup> to Mids <sup>r</sup> , 1801 ... ..	7	10	0
31st „ ...	By Exchequer Pension to 5th July ... ..	500	0	0
	Stamp ... ..	0	2	6
		499 17 6		
		£4,372 8 6		
24th July ...	By Balance from the above Account ... ..	£3,748	16	2
22nd Aug....	By Pension to 24th June, 1801 ... ..	462	10	0
8th Oct. ...	By Cash received of Marsh, Sibbald, & C <sup>o</sup> ... ..	1,000	0	0
13th „ ...	By Sold 3,580 <i>l.</i> 5 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub> C <sup>ts</sup> , 1797, at 99 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub> <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub> c <sup>t</sup> ... ..	£3,571	1	0
	Paid Broker ... ..	4	9	6
		3,566 11 6		
23rd „ ...	By Exchequer Pension to 10th Oct., 1801 ... ..	500	0	0
	Stamp ... ..	0	2	6
		499 17 6		
6th Nov. ...	By Prize Money for Lima Convoy, <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub> J. Jackson ... ..	1,189	8	1
	Comm <sup>n</sup> ... ..	29	14	6
		1,159 13 7		
4th Dec. ...	By Prize Money, Barcelona, Pirus Squadron, <i>Nelson</i> , <i>Diligente</i> , <i>Rheater</i> , & <i>Le Hazard</i> ... ..	263	1	6
„ „ ...	By ditto, Channel Fleet ... ..	59	1	3
		322 2 9		
	Comm <sup>n</sup> ... ..	8	1	0
		314 1 9		
1802.				
11th Jan. ...	By Exchequer Pension to 5th Jan., 1802 ... ..	500	0	0
	Stamp ... ..	0	2	6
		499 17 6		
5th „ ...	By Balance carried to New Account below ... ..	133	4	2
		£11,384 12 2		



*Dr.* THE RT. HON. ADMIRAL HORATIO, VISCOUNT NELSON, K.B., Duke of

1802.									£	s.	d.
5th Jan.	...	To Balance from the above Account	...	...	...	...	...	...	133	4	2
"	"	To paid Lady Nelson her Quarterly Allow <sup>ce</sup> to Xmas, 1801	...	...	...	...	...	...	400	0	0
12th	"	To paid Draft to Mr. Halfhide	...	...	...	...	...	...	23	2	0
14th	"	To Cash	...	...	...	...	...	...	100	0	0
25th	"	To paid Draft to Geo. Philipps	...	...	...	...	...	...	71	0	0
"	"	To Cash	...	...	...	...	...	...	100	0	0
26th	"	To paid Draft to John Tyson, Esq <sup>r</sup>	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,000	0	0
28th	"	To ditto to Rob <sup>t</sup> Wright	...	...	...	...	...	...	18	0	0
30th	"	To ditto to John Salter	...	...	...	...	...	...	17	3	0
1st Feb.	...	To paid postage at times	...	...	...	...	...	...	0	16	10
		To Balance carried to New Account below	...	...	...	...	...	...	809	5	6

1st Feb., 1802.

Errors Excepted,

MARSH, PAGE, & CREED.

£3,672 11 6

*Dr.*

THE RIGHT HON. LORD VISCOUNT NELSON *in*

1802.									£	s.	d.
Feb. 2	...	To paid Draft to Tho <sup>s</sup> Varden	...	...	...	...	...	...	100	0	0
" 4	...	To D <sup>o</sup> to Sir W <sup>m</sup> Hamilton	...	...	...	...	...	...	72	5	9
" 4	...	To Cash & M <sup>r</sup> J <sup>no</sup> Tyson...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100	0	0
" 9	...	To paid Draft to Rob <sup>t</sup> Bunt	...	...	...	...	...	...	20	0	0
" 11	...	To D <sup>o</sup> to Tho <sup>s</sup> Allen	...	...	...	...	...	...	30	0	0
" 12	...	To Cash	...	...	...	...	...	...	100	0	0
" 15	...	To paid Draft to Malcolm & C <sup>o</sup> ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	26	12	6
" 18	...	To D <sup>o</sup> to John Brydon	...	...	...	...	...	...	40	0	0
" 22	...	To D <sup>o</sup> to M <sup>r</sup> Oliver	...	...	...	...	...	...	100	0	0
" 26	...	To D <sup>o</sup> to Sir W <sup>m</sup> Hamilton	...	...	...	...	...	...	78	15	6
Mar. 4	...	To D <sup>o</sup> to Fra <sup>s</sup> Oliver	...	...	...	...	...	...	100	0	0
" 6	...	To D <sup>o</sup> to Sir W <sup>m</sup> Hamilton	...	...	...	...	...	...	69	6	10
" 13	...	To repaid M <sup>r</sup> J. P. Runce, for Stationary, &c.	...	...	...	...	...	...	18	17	6
" 19	...	To Cash	...	...	...	...	...	...	100	0	0
April 2	...	To paid Draft to W <sup>m</sup> Jones	...	...	...	...	...	...	19	13	11
" 5	...	To D <sup>o</sup> to M <sup>r</sup> White	...	...	...	...	...	...	44	7	6
" 6	...	To D <sup>o</sup> to Bennett & Son	...	...	...	...	...	...	43	5	3
" 8	...	To D <sup>o</sup> to James Bowyer	...	...	...	...	...	...	117	0	0
" 13	...	To paid Lady Nelson her Quarterly Allow <sup>ce</sup> to 5 ins <sup>t</sup>	...	...	...	...	...	...	400	0	0
" 14	...	To paid Draft to Tho <sup>s</sup> Spinks	...	...	...	...	...	...	45	0	6
" 14	...	To Cash	...	...	...	...	...	...	100	0	0
May 4	...	To paid Subscription to Navy Club at the Shakespeare	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	4	0
" 10	...	To paid Draft to Mess <sup>rs</sup> Halfhides	...	...	...	...	...	...	200	0	0
		To Balance in favour of Lord Nelson carr <sup>d</sup> to New Acco <sup>t</sup>	...	...	...	...	...	...	1805	6	6

£3734 15 9

1802.]

## NELSON PAPERS.

397

Bronté, &amp;c., in Account Current with MESSRS. MARSH, PAGE, &amp; CREED.

Cr.

1802.						£	s.	d.
13th Jan. ...	By Sold 1,000 <i>l</i> . India Stock, at 212 $\frac{3}{4}$ $\frac{1}{2}$ c <sup>t</sup>	...	...	...	£2,127	10	0	
	Private Transfer	...	...	...	£1	6	6	
	Paid Broker	...	...	...	1	5	0	
					2	11	6	
								£2,124 18 6
" "	By Dividend 300 <i>l</i> . 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ C <sup>ts</sup> to Xmas, 1801	...	...	...	...	...	...	7 10 0
23rd "	By Table Money as Command <sup>r</sup> -in-Chief, 24th July & 31st Dec., 1801	...	...	...	161	0	0	
" "	By Balance of Flag Pay & Compens <sup>n</sup> , Table Money & Stationary, 16th March, 1798, & 12th July, 1800...	...	...	...	165	10	0	
" "	By ditto, ditto, 9th Jan. & 31st Dec., 1801	...	...	...	1,199	6	0	
					1,525	16	0	
	Comm <sup>n</sup>	...	...	...	38	3	0	
								1,487 13 0
" "	By Divid <sup>d</sup> 1,000 <i>l</i> . India Stock to 5th Jan., 1802	...	...	...	...	...	...	52 10 0
								£3,672 11 6

Account Current with MESSRS. MARSH, PAGE, &amp; CREED.

Cr.

1802.						£	s.	d.
Feb. 1 ...	By Balance $\frac{1}{2}$ Account rendered	...	...	...	...	...	...	809 5 6
" 1 ...	By Prize M <sup>o</sup> $\frac{1}{2}$ B. Tucker, Proport <sup>n</sup> of <i>Jean Annonettei</i>	...	...	...	£45	14	6	
	Comm <sup>n</sup>	...	...	...	1	3	0	
								44 11 6
Mar. 16 ...	By Pension to 25th Dec., 1801	...	...	...	...	...	...	462 10 0
" 19 ...	By $\frac{1}{2}$ Pay 13th July & 31st Dec., 1800	...	...	...	148	12	0	
	By D <sup>o</sup> 1st & 8th Jan., 1801	...	...	...	9	17	6	
					158	9	6	
	Comm <sup>n</sup>	...	...	...	3	19	0	
								154 10 6
April 9 ...	By received from Mess. Cook and Halford	...	...	...	...	...	...	1304 3 0
" 13 ...	By Exchequer Pension to 5th April, 1802	...	...	...	500	0	0	
	Stamp	...	...	...	0	2	6	
								499 17 6
May 1 ...	By Prize Money, $\frac{1}{2}$ B. Tucker, of R <sup>d</sup> Birt	...	...	...	49	2	9	
	Comm <sup>n</sup>	...	...	...	1	4	6	
								47 18 3
" 10 ...	By Flag Pay, Compens <sup>n</sup> , & Table Money (2nd Jan. & 11th April, 1802)	...	...	...	422	11	0	
	Comm <sup>n</sup>	...	...	...	10	11	6	
								411 19 6

Errors excepted.

£3734 15 9

London, 15th May, 1802.

MARSH, PAGE, &amp; CREED.



Dr.

THE RIGHT HON. LORD VISCOUNT NELSON *in*

1802.										£	s.	d.
May 18	...	To paid Dft. to Mr Brydon	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14	19	0
" 22	...	To D <sup>o</sup> to Tho <sup>s</sup> Molyneux...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	120	11	0
" 24	...	To D <sup>o</sup> to Sir W <sup>m</sup> Beechy...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	36	15	0
" 26	...	To Cash to Louis Remonier, for Bal <sup>ce</sup> of His Wages for the										
		<i>Agamemnon</i> ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	53	13	6
June 5	...	To paid Dft. to Brown & Whiteford	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14	7	6
		To D <sup>o</sup> D <sup>o</sup>	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	43	0	0
" 17	...	To D <sup>o</sup> to John Salter	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	89	13	0
July 1	...	To D <sup>o</sup> to Rev <sup>d</sup> M. Comyn	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	50	0	0
" 2	...	To D <sup>o</sup> to John Woodman...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	53	15	10
" 9	...	To D <sup>o</sup> to Rob <sup>t</sup> Wright	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	37	0	0
" 13	...	To Cash ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	300	0	0
" 14	...	To paid Dft. to the Hon <sup>ble</sup> Rev <sup>d</sup> Dr Nelson	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	90	0	0
" 20	...	To Cash ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100	0	0
		To paid Lady Nelson her Allow <sup>ce</sup> to 5th Ins <sup>t</sup>	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	400	0	0
		To paid for 25 <i>Naval Magazines</i> at 2/6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	2	6
" 22	...	To Bank power ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0	16	6
" 29	...	To paid Bill to George Matcham, Esq <sup>r</sup>	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	526	13	4
		To Bal <sup>ce</sup> carried to Acco <sup>t</sup> with Marsh & Creed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	413	16	10

£2348 4 0

Dr.

THE RIGHT HON. LORD VISCOUNT NELSON *in*

1802.										£	s.	d.
Aug. 21	...	To p <sup>d</sup> Bill by Tho <sup>s</sup> Bolton to Edw <sup>d</sup> Slade, due 31st Aug.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100	0	0
" 31	...	To p <sup>d</sup> Bill to J. Watkins	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	50	0	0
Sept. 3	...	To D <sup>o</sup> to Tho <sup>s</sup> Weaver	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20	0	0
" 6	...	To paid Dft. to the Hon <sup>ble</sup> Rev <sup>d</sup> Dr Nelson	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100	0	0
" 9	...	To D <sup>o</sup> to Fra <sup>s</sup> White	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	106	5	4
		To paid Bill to W <sup>m</sup> Styles	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100	0	0
" 10	...	To Cash ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100	0	0
" 15	...	To paid Dft. to Tho <sup>s</sup> Sprinks	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100	0	0
		To Bal <sup>ce</sup> in fav. of Lord Nelson	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	200	1	6

£876 6 10

							£	s.	d.
' In my Agent's hands, ac <sup>t</sup>	...	...	...	...	...	...	1100	0	0
Pension due	...	...	...	...	...	...	500	0	0
Overplus of last Pension	...	...	...	...	...	...	100	0	0
To receive from M <sup>ce</sup> 's Estate	...	...	...	...	...	...	100	0	0
To receive from my Mother's Est <sup>te</sup>	...	...	...	...	...	...	200	0	0
D <sup>o</sup> from my Father's, at least	...	...	...	...	...	...	100	0	0
							£2200	0	0'

1802.]

*Account Current with* MESSRS. MARSH, PAGE, & CREED.

Cr.

1802.										£	s.	d.	
May	15	...	By Bal <sup>ce</sup> of Acco <sup>t</sup>	...	...	...	...	...	...	1805	6	6	
"	22	...	By <i>L'Espiegle</i> P. M <sup>y</sup> , Aberdeen	...	...	...	...	£8	7	0			
		...	By D <sup>o</sup> D <sup>o</sup> Hoop	...	...	...	...	4	8	6			
			Comm <sup>n</sup>	...	...	...	...	12	15	6			
								0	6	6			
June	2	...	By <i>Marshal de Cobourg</i> P. M <sup>y</sup> , Bienvenue	...	...	...	...	4	12	0	12	9	0
			Comm <sup>n</sup>	...	...	...	...	0	2	6			
"	17	...	By <i>Victory</i> P. M <sup>y</sup> , 3 <sup>d</sup> pay <sup>t</sup> , 14th Feb., 1797	...	...	...	...	7	12	6	4	9	6
			Comm <sup>n</sup>	...	...	...	...	0	4	0			
July	10	...	By Excheq <sup>r</sup> Pension to 5th July, 1802	...	...	...	...	500	0	0	7	8	6
			Stamp	...	...	...	...	0	2	6			
"	13	...	By Div <sup>d</sup> , 300 <i>l.</i> 5 <i>sh</i> C <sup>t</sup> Ann <sup>s</sup> , to Mids <sup>r</sup> 1802	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	499	17	6
"	20	...	By <i>Cruizer</i> P. M <sup>y</sup> , <i>Harriet &amp; London</i> Recaptures	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	10	0
			By <i>Narcissus</i> D <sup>o</sup> , <i>Hope</i> D <sup>o</sup>	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	9	6
			By Received for a Bank Power not executed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	18	6
											0	15	0
Errors Excepted.										£2348	4	0	
London, 31st July, 1802.										MARSH, PAGE, & CREED.			

*Account Current with* MESSRS. MARSH, PAGE, & CREED.

Cr.

1802.								£	s.	d.
Aug.	1	...	By Bal <sup>ce</sup> bro <sup>t</sup> from the above Acco <sup>t</sup>	...	...	...	...	413	16	10
"	23	...	By Pension to 24th June, 1802	...	...	...	...	426	10	0
								<hr/> <div>£876 6 10</div>		

	£	s.	d.
' 2000 <i>l.</i> 3 p <sup>r</sup> cent. Con <sup>ls</sup> , supposed value	1480	0	0
500 to my Sister M <sup>m</sup> .			
200 to M <sup>rs</sup> B.			
100 to M <sup>r</sup> B. for Edm <sup>d</sup> .			
100 to my Father's Ex <sup>r</sup> .			
200 to Myself.			

1100      3)380% overplus.

126*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.*

to be divided between M<sup>rs</sup> M<sup>m</sup>, M<sup>rs</sup> Bolton, & myself.

M<sup>rs</sup> M<sup>m</sup> owes me 100*l*., which I paid M<sup>rs</sup> B<sup>n</sup> by her desire.'



*Memo. left by Mr. Pollard relative to Prize Money, &c. Paid by him to  
Fras. Wilson, Esq., Navy Officer :*

	£	s.	d.
For <i>Fortuna</i> ... ..	769	16	11
<i>Madona del Grazzie e Consolazione</i> ... ..	324	18	10
<i>Volonta di Dio</i> ... ..	150	2	5
<i>Bona Sorte</i> ... ..	56	19	7
<i>Madona del Grazzie e St. Antonio di Padova</i> ... ..	293	2	0
<i>St. Giovanni</i> , Venetian Lugger ... ..	99	7	3
<i>St. Peter and St. Paul</i> , laden w <sup>h</sup> Corn, Hams, &c....	29	9	5
Sale of Sundry Articles... ..	35	2	0
	£1758	18	5
Sundry Charges by Pollard ... ..	164	4	3
Paid to M Francis Wilson ... ..	£1594	14	2
In M <sup>r</sup> Ogle's hands, for <i>Fortuna</i> ... ..	£1000	0	0
In Mess <sup>rs</sup> Marsh & Creed's hands ... ..	2000	0	0
	3000	0	0
	£4594	14	2

Goods left in the Grand Duke's Warehouse belonging to the above Prizes, value ... .. (Leg <sup>n</sup> Currency)	£.11,553
Securities taken at Leghorn for other parts of cargo, from the following Houses :	
Restanne ... ..	3,042
Valli e Borghesi ... ..	1,295
Ralli ... ..	1,658
Giacommo Bernici ... ..	534
	£.18,207

## APPENDIX C.

Sheets of Accounts (in Lord Nelson's writing). Dated between July 20th, and September 21st, 1802. 14 pages 4to.

'Subscribed SIR WM. HAMILTON & myself at Merton, July 20th, 1802.  
£100 each, being £200.

8 Horses, Merton to Hounslow, not paid Mr. Woodman.

Horses from Hounslow to Maidenhead	...	...	...	...	...	...	£3	9	4
From M. to Henly	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	0
Benson	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	11	4
Oxford	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	16	0
Bill at the 'Star,' Oxford, & Servants	...	...	...	...	...	...	27	0	10
Dorton, Dresses	...	...	...	...	...	...	23	2	0
University Serv <sup>ts</sup>	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	0
Horses to Woodstock	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	0	0
Bill at Do. & Serv <sup>ts</sup>	...	...	...	...	...	...	15	2	2
Same at Blenheim	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	0
Francatello	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	7	0
Horses to Troymill from Burford	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	14	0
To Gloster	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	5	4
Eating at	...	...	...	...	...	...	0	5	0
Bill at Gloster	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	15	9
Same at the	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	0
To Ross	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	14	8
Monmouth	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	8	0
Do. by Water	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	6	0
Bill at Ross	...	...	...	...	...	...	0	19	0
Francatello	...	...	...	...	...	...	0	16	8
Bill at Monmouth	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	11	10
To Abergavenny	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	14	8
Brecon	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	13	4
Bill at Brecon	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	13	9
To Myrter Tydder	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	8	0
Francatello	...	...	...	...	...	...	0	8	2
Bill at Myrter Tidder	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	1	0
Serv <sup>ts</sup> at do.	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	5	0
From Brecon to Treacastles	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	11	0
Treacastles & Landoverly...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	0
Bill at do.	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	10	2
Serv <sup>ts</sup>	...	...	...	...	...	...	0	17	6
To Carmarthen, 27 m.	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	6	0
Drivers, turnpikes, gearing, &c.	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	4	0
Playhouse	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	3	0
Ventriloquist	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	0
Bill at Carmarthen & serv <sup>ts</sup>	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	3	4
St. Clairs for break <sup>th</sup>	...	...	...	...	...	...	0	18	0
From Carn. to Narbeth, 2 pair	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	19	0
From Carn. to Har. Wt., 2 pr.	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	4	0
Drivers	...	...	...	...	...	...	0	16	0
Ringers at Narbeth	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	0
From Nbth. to Milford, 2 pr.	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	17	2
Haverf <sup>d</sup> Wt. to Milford, 2 pr.	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	3	4
Drivers, except two posts from Merton to Milford	...	...	...	...	...	...	11	0	6

Journey to Milford £189 12 10





Bill at Ludlow for going to Downton, returning to Tenbury, & Repair <sup>s</sup> the Coach	...	...	...	...	...	...	£5 19 8
Drivers to Downton & ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0 16 0
Do. to Tenbury ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0 10 6
Turnpikes ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0 6 0
Horses to Hundred House	...	...	...	...	...	...	2 16 0
Drivers ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0 12 0
Turnpikes ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0 2 0
To Worcester	...	...	...	...	...	...	2 11 4
Drivers ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0 12 0
Bill at Worcester ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4 7 8
Servants ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1 5 6
Francatello ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1 12 6
Cyder & Perry ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12 16 10
From Worcester to Broomsgrove	...	...	...	...	...	...	3 0 8
Drivers ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0 12 0
Ostler ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0 2 0
Horses to Birmingham	...	...	...	...	...	...	3 0 10
Drivers ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0 12 0
Bill at Birmingham	...	...	...	...	...	...	8 16 0
Men serv <sup>ts</sup> ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1 11 6
Female Do. ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1 10 0
Bootcleaner ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0 2 6
Francatello's Bill for Washing ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5 0 0
Horses to Hockly—paid wrong...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2 18 0
Drivers ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0 12 0
Ostler ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0 4 0
To Warwick	...	...	...	...	...	...	2 6 8
Drivers ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0 12 0
Turnpikes ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0 6 0
Bill at Warwick	...	...	...	...	...	...	9 15 0
Male Serv <sup>ts</sup> ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1 1 0
Female Do. ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0 10 6
Bootcleaner ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0 2 0
Ostler ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0 4 0
Horses to Coventry	...	...	...	...	...	...	2 6 8
Drivers ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0 10 8
Turnpikes ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0 2 0
Bill at Coventry ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1 1 0
Horses to Danchurch	...	...	...	...	...	...	2 11 4
Drivers ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0 12 0
Turnpikes ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0 3 0
To Daintree	...	...	...	...	...	...	1 17 4
Drivers ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0 10 6
To Towcester	...	...	...	...	...	...	2 16 0
Drivers ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0 12 0
Ostlers ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0 2 0
Bill at Towcester ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1 6 0
Serv <sup>ts</sup> ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0 5 0
Horses to S <sup>y</sup> Stratford	...	...	...	...	...	...	1 17 4
Drivers ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0 10 6
Ostlers ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0 2 0
To Brisley ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2 2 0
Drivers ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0 10 6
Ostler ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0 1 0
To Dunstable	...	...	...	...	...	...	2 6 8
Drivers ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0 11 4
Francatello's Bill ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1 7 0
Bill at Dunstable ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2 14 8
Male Serv <sup>ts</sup> ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0 15 0
Female Do. ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0 7 0



[Brought forward]							
Ostler	...	...	...	...	...	...	£0 4 0
Bootcleaner	...	...	...	...	...	...	0 2 0
Horses to St. Albans	...	...	...	...	...	...	3 5 0
Drivers	...	...	...	...	...	...	0 12 0
Ostlers	...	...	...	...	...	...	0 2 0
							<u>£109 11 2</u>
Horses to Watford	...	...	...	...	...	...	2 0 0
Drivers	...	...	...	...	...	...	0 10 6
Ostler	...	...	...	...	...	...	0 1 0
To Brentford	...	...	...	...	...	...	4 0 0
Drivers	...	...	...	...	...	...	0 14 0
To Merton (11 miles)	...	...	...	...	...	...	2 15 0
Drivers	...	...	...	...	...	...	0 12 0
Bridge	...	...	...	...	...	...	0 1 6
Francatello	...	...	...	...	...	...	0 11 8
							<u>£11 5 8</u>
							189 12 10
Received	...	...	...	...	£406 0 0		170 14 2
							<u>481 3 10</u>
							109 11 2
P <sup>d</sup> by L <sup>d</sup> N.	...	...	...	...	75 3 10		<u>£481 3 10</u>
S <sup>r</sup> W <sup>m</sup> half	...	...	...	...	37 11 11		
Receiv <sup>d</sup> from S <sup>r</sup> W <sup>m</sup>	...	...	...	...	100 0 0		
Due S <sup>r</sup> W <sup>m</sup> from L <sup>d</sup> N.	...	...	...	...	<u>£62 8 1</u>		

£1094 2 4	...	...	Half the expence of the journey to England.
255 0 0	...	...	Lent on the road.
927 14 0	...	...	At Palermo.
<u>2276 16 4</u>			Owing L <sup>d</sup> N.
957 19 3	...	...	
*1218 17 1	...	...	Due L <sup>d</sup> N.
62 8 1	...	...	Owing Sir Wm. Hamilton.
<u>1156 9 0</u>			Due L <sup>d</sup> Nelson.
52 10 0	...	...	
<u>£1103 19 0</u>			

Merton, Sept. 21st, 1802.

‘MONEY DRAWN FOR BY LORD NELSON.

Mr. Tyson, Leghorn, brought away	...	...	...	£258 0 0
Ancona, by bill	...	...	...	100 0 0
Do. do.	...	...	...	150 0 0
Myself	...	...	...	6 0 0
Vienna, Aug. 19th	...	...	...	100 0 0
21st	...	...	...	100 0 0
22nd	...	...	...	300 0 0
Sept. 13th	...	...	...	200 0 0
21st	...	...	...	300 0 0
23rd	...	...	...	100 0 0
Prague, 29th	...	...	...	100 0 0
Dresden, Oct. 6th	...	...	...	100 0 0

\* It will be noted that Lord Nelson has made a mistake against himself of £100.

[Brought forward]							
Hamburg,	28th	...	...	...	...	...	£400 0 0
	29th	...	...	...	...	...	150 0 0
	30th	...	...	...	...	...	656 0 0
Yarmouth	...	...	...	...	...	...	287 6 0
Colchester	...	...	...	...	...	...	50 0 0
Money borrow'd	...	...	...	...	...	...	40 0 0
							<hr/>
							£3397 6 0
Mr. Oliver	...	...	...	...	...	...	34 10 0
							<hr/>
Drawn for & paid out by L <sup>d</sup> N. between July 13th &							
	Nov. 18th	...	...	...	...	...	£3431 16 0

'SPENT BY LORD NELSON.

To Sept. 13 <sup>th</sup>	...	...	...	...	...	...	£III 10 0
21 <sup>st</sup>	...	...	...	...	...	...	100 0 0
Wine for Mr. Greffer	...	...	...	...	...	...	12 0 0
Hamb <sup>g</sup> , Oct. 28 <sup>th</sup>	...	...	...	...	...	...	100 0 0
30 <sup>th</sup>	...	...	...	...	...	...	506 13 3
Yarm <sup>th</sup> , Nov.	...	...	...	...	...	...	58 10 0
Total by L <sup>d</sup> N.	...	...	...	...	...	...	£988 13 3

'SIR WM. HAMILTON.

To Sept 13th	...	...	...	...	...	£205	0	0
Hamb <sup>g</sup> , Oct 28th	...	...	...	...	...	50	0	0
						£255	0	0
To be deducted from the bills drawn	...	...	...	...	...	£1243	13	3
						3431	16	0
						£2188	4	9
To be divided	...	...	...	...	...	1094	2	4
Sir Wm. H. proportion	...	...	...	...	...	255	0	0
						£1349	2	4
Due Lord Nelson	...	...	...	...	...			



## APPENDIX D.

*Weekly Account of the RT. HON. SIR WM. HAMILTON and the RT. HON. LORD  
VISCOUNT NELSON, from the 21st to the 28th June, 1802.*

	£	s.	d.
Mr. Coleman, Fishmonger ... ..	5	6	10
Mr. Stinton, Grocer ... ..	4	8	11
Mr. Wyld, Cheesemonger ... ..	0	17	11
Mr. Cummins, Washerwoman ... ..	0	5	2
Mr. Gadd, Baker ... ..	0	6	0½
Mr. Allard, Greengrocer ... ..	0	18	4
Mr. Lucas, Milkman ... ..	0	2	10
Mrs. Greenfield, Butcher at Merton ... ..	7	11	10½
Mr. Cribb, for Vegetable at Do. ... ..	3	12	7
Mr. Skelton, Baker at Do. ... ..	1	11	9
Mr. Woodman, Chandler Shop at Do. ... ..	1	0	11
Mr. Boyes, for Letters ... ..			
Expended in the Town House from 21st to 28th June ... ..	£26	3	2
	0	18	5½
Total ... ..	£27	1	7½

16 July, 1802.

Settled the above account by me, FRANS. WHITE.

\* [£60 00 0  
52 7 10¼  
£7 12 1¾]

*Weekly Account of the RT. HON. SIR WM. HAMILTON and the RT. HON. LORD  
VISCOUNT NELSON, from the 28th June to the 5th July, 1802.*

	£	s.	d.
Mr. Dagley, Butcher, from 22nd May to the 30 June ... ..	6	11	1
Mr. Coleman, Fishmonger ... ..	5	5	2
Mr. Smart, for Newspapers from the 1st Jan. to 30 June ... ..	5	4	0
Mr. Stinton, Grocer ... ..	4	16	8
Mr. Barclay, Wax Chandler ... ..	3	7	6
Mr. Wyld, Cheesemonger ... ..	2	5	5
Mr. Allard, Greengrocer ... ..	0	16	10
Mr. Cummings, for Washing ... ..	0	7	11½
Mr. Lucas, for Milk ... ..	0	1	10
Mr. Gadd, Baker ... ..	0	8	8
Mrs. Varley, for Malt, Hops, and Sugar ... ..	12	8	0
Mr. Leach and Bennett, for Oats ... ..	11	14	0
Mrs. Greenfield, Butcher at Merton ... ..	7	6	7
Mr. Cribb, for Vegetables at Do. ... ..	3	19	7
Mr. Skelton, Baker at Do. ... ..	1	17	6
Mr. Woodman, Chandler Shop at Do. ... ..	1	5	2
Mr. Boyes, for Letters at Do. ... ..	0	13	4

\* The portions in square brackets in this Appendix are in Nelson's handwriting.

[Brought forward]						£	s.	d.
Mr. Oliver, for Road and Stable expenses	...	...	...	...	...	1	13	8
Mr. White, for Oranges, Lemons, and Fruit, to Merton	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	3
To the Coachman, for five days' Board Wages	...	...	...	...	...	0	10	0
Tradesmen's bills from the 28 June to 5 July	...	...	...	...	...	£72	15	2½
Expended in the house from the 28 June to the 5 July	...	...	...	...	...	1	10	0½
Do. in the house at Merton, Do. to Do.	...	...	...	...	...	3	9	0
Total						£77	14	3
Last week's acct brought forward	...	...	...	...	...	27	1	7½
Total from the 21st June to the 5 July	...	...	...	...	...	£104	15	10½
July 16, 1802.						52	7	10½

Rec<sup>d</sup> of the R<sup>t</sup> Hon<sup>ble</sup> Sir W<sup>m</sup> Hamilton and the R<sup>t</sup> Hon<sup>ble</sup> Lord Viscount Nelson  
the above sum, by me, F. WHITE.

[£40 0 0  
 38 5 8  
 ———  
 £1 14 4  
 2 0 0  
 ———  
 £0 5 8]

*Weekly Account of the RT. HON. SIR WM. HAMILTON and the RT. HON. LORD  
VISCOUNT NELSON, from the 27 Sept. to the 4th Oct., 1802.*

									£	s.	d.
Mr. Burgess, Oilman	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	19	0
Mr. Stinton, Grocer	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	8	2
Mr. Grange, Fruiterer	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	12	6
Mr. Birch, for Turtle Soup	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	5	6
Mr. Coleman, Fishmonger	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	8	6
Mr. White, for Fruit sent to Merton, &c. &c.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	17	6
Mr. Stone, for Spirits sent to Merton	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	6	0
Mr. Wyld, Cheesemonger	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	18	8½
Mr. Scott, for Brown Stout	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	18	0
Mr. Jackson, for Perry	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	4	0
Mr. Allard, Greengrocer	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0	8	10
Mr. Cummins, for Washing	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0	6	5½
Mr. Gadd, Baker	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0	3	11
Mr. Lucas, for Milk	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0	2	3
Mr. Oliver, for Advertising for a Cook	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0	6	0
Mr. Greenfield, Butcher at Merton	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	10	2½
Mr. Cribb, ten weeks' bills for Vegetables	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	12	6
Mr. Skelton, Baker at Merton	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	8
Mr. Woodman, Chandler Shop at Do.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0	16	2½
Mr. Boyes, for Letters at Do.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0	10	10
Tradesmen's bills from 27 Sept. to 4 Oct.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£63	16	9
Expended in the House from Do. to Do.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	10	4½
Total expended from Do to Do.						...	...	...	£66	7	½

17 Oct., 1802.

Settled the above acc<sup>t</sup>, FRANS. WHITE.



*Weekly Account of the RT. HON. SIR WM. HAMILTON and the RT. HON. LORD  
VISCOUNT NELSON, from the 4th to the 11th Oct., 1802.*

Mr. Haines, Poulterer ... ..	£7 9 6
Mr. Stinton, Grocer ... ..	4 19 8
Mr. Coleman, Fishmonger ... ..	4 0 8
Mr. Wyld, Cheesemonger ... ..	2 7 8½
Mr. Scott, for Brown Stout ... ..	2 5 0
Coachman for Turnpike & Expences at different times from Merton to London, &c. &c. ... ..	0 15 7
Mr. Gadd, Baker ... ..	0 7 4
Mrs. Cummins, for Washing ... ..	0 7 2
Mr. White, for 4 lbs. Coffee sent to Merton ... ..	0 12 0
To Richard, for Turnpike at different times ... ..	0 13 11
Mr. Lucas, for Milk ... ..	0 2 9½
Mrs. Perry, Pastry Cook ... ..	19 10 9
Mrs. Greenfield, Butcher at Merton ... ..	8 12 10½
Mr. Cribb, for Vegetables at Do. ... ..	2 13 6
Mr. Skelton, Baker at Do. ... ..	1 17 0
Mr. Boyes, for Letters at Do. ... ..	0 16 4
Mr. Woodman, Chandler Shop at Do. ... ..	0 12 8½
Mr. Woodman, Publican for Charcoal, &c. ... ..	15 5 10
Mr. Footitt, for Malt, Hops, &c. &c. ... ..	18 15 0
Mr. Whitmore, for Poultry ... ..	1 16 3
Mr. Stone, Brandy Merchant ... ..	13 1 0
Mr. Bethese, for Fruit send to Merton ... ..	1 1 0
Paid for Carriage and Porterage for 4 Hampers ... ..	3 9 9

	£111 13 4
Expended at Merton by Mrs. Cadogan ... ..	4 0 10
Do. in the town house from 4 to 11 Oct. ... ..	1 14 0½
Total ... ..	£117 8 2½
Last week's acct brought over ... ..	66 7 1½
Total expended from 27 Sept. to 11 Oct. ... ..	£183 15 4
[Paid Mr. White, Oct. 19th, 1802, N. & B. ... ..	91 17 5]

Rec<sup>d</sup> the 17 Oct., 1802, of the R<sup>t</sup> Hon<sup>ble</sup> Sir W<sup>m</sup> Hamilton, the sum of Ninety-one Pounds Seventeen Shillings and Eightpence, being the half of the amount as appears on the other side, by me, FRANS. WHITE.

£91 17s. 8d.

*Weekly Account of the RT. HON. SIR WM. HAMILTON and the RT. HON. LORD  
VISCOUNT NELSON, from the 11th to the 18th Oct., 1802.*

Mr. Stinton, Grocer ... ..	£5 16 0
Mr. Coleman, Fishmonger ... ..	4 10 6
Mr. Wyld, Cheesemonger ... ..	1 15 1
Mr. Peartree, Stable Keeper ... ..	1 2 0
Paid the old Cook, by order of my Lady ... ..	0 15 0
Mr. Allard, Greengrocer (2 bills) ... ..	0 15 2
Mr. Gadd, Baker ... ..	0 6 0
Mrs. Cummings, for Washing ... ..	0 5 9
Mr. Lucas, Milkman ... ..	0 2 1
Mr. Greenfield, Butcher at Merton ... ..	8 18 8
Mr. Cribb, for Vegetables at Do. ... ..	3 12 6
Mr. Woodman, Chandler Shop at Do. ... ..	1 10 5
Mr. Skelton, Baker at Do. ... ..	1 12 4
Mr. Boyes, for Letters at Do. ... ..	0 12 8
Tradesmen's bills from 11 to the 18 Oct. ... ..	£31 14 2
Expended in the house from Do. to Do. ... ..	2 16 2
Total ... ..	£34 10 4

3rd Nov., 1802.

Settled the above accounts, FRANS. WHITE.

*Weekly Account of the RT. HON. SIR WM. HAMILTON and the RT. HON. LORD  
VISCOUNT NELSON, from the 25th Oct. to the 1st Nov., 1802.*

	£	s.	d.
Mr. Stinton, Grocer ... ..	9	4	4
Mr. Coleman, Fishmonger ... ..	2	10	8
Mr. Wyld, Cheesemonger ... ..	1	14	4
Mr. Scott, for Brown Stout ... ..	2	15	0
Mr. Allard, Greengrocer ... ..	0	15	0
Mr. Gadd, Baker ... ..	0	9	2
Mrs. Cummins, for Washing ... ..	0	4	8
The Coachman, for Expenses and Turnpike ... ..	0	10	3
Housemaid at Merton, 3 months' wages ... ..	2	12	6
Mr. Lucas, for Milk ... ..	0	2	1
Mr. Greenfield, Butcher at Merton ... ..	10	4	2
Mr. Skelton, Baker at Do. ... ..	1	15	8
Mr. Cribb, for Vegetable at Do. ... ..	1	12	8
Mr. Woodman, Chandler Shop at Do. ... ..	1	2	10½
Tradesman's bills from the 25th Oct. to 1st Nov. ... ..	£35	13	4½
Expended in the house from Do. to Do. ... ..	2	3	6
Carried forward ... .. Total ... ..	£37	16	10½

12th Nov., 1802.

Settled the above accounts, FRANS. WHITE.

*Weekly Account of the RT. HON. SIR WM. HAMILTON and the RT. HON. LORD  
VISCOUNT NELSON, from the 1st to the 8th Nov., 1802.*

	£	s.	d.
Mr. Stinton, Grocer ... ..	8	14	8
Mr. Coleman, Fishmonger ... ..	2	15	9
Mr. Wyld, Cheesemonger ... ..	2	2	2½
Mr. Scott, for Brown Stout ... ..	1	10	0
Mrs. Bethell, for Fruit to Merton ... ..	1	7	0
To Richard, for Turnpike ... ..	0	11	2
Mr. White, Lemons and Cakes to Merton ... ..	0	10	6
Mr. Gadd, Baker ... ..	0	6	3
Mr. Cummins, for Washing ... ..	0	5	3½
Mr. Allard, Greengrocer ... ..	0	2	11
Mr. Lucas, for Milk ... ..	0	2	2
Mr. Pascoe, for Malt, Hops, & Sugar ... ..	12	0	0
Mr. Stammers, for Barley ... ..	8	8	6
To Do., 2 more bills ... ..	3	13	6
Mr. Pascoe, for Malt and Hops ... ..	9	0	0
Mr. Greenfield, Butcher at Merton ... ..	8	19	5
Mr. Skelton, Baker at Do. ... ..	1	14	4
Mr. Cribb, for Vegetable at Do. ... ..	1	5	9
Tradesmen's bills from 1st to 8th Nov. ... ..	£63	9	5
Expended in the town house from Do. to Do. ... ..	2	0	9
Do. by the Cook at Merton ... ..	7	10	0
Last week's account brought forward ... ..	£73	0	2
Total from the 25th Oct. to 8th Nov....	37	16	10½
	£110	17	0½

12th Nov. 1802. Rec<sup>d</sup> of the R<sup>t</sup> Hon<sup>bl</sup> Sir Wm. Hamilton, the sum of Fifty-five pounds, Eight shillings, and Sixpence, being the half of the above acc<sup>t</sup>, by me,  
F. WHITE.

[Paid by Lord Nelson to Mr. White.]





*Weekly Account of the RT. HON. SIR WM. HAMILTON and the RT. HON. LORD  
VISCOUNT NELSON from 13 to 20 Dec., 1802.*

Mr. Clark, for Wax and Tallow Candles	...	...	...	...	...	...	£32	8	2½
Mr. Stinton, Grocer	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	11	8
Mr. Dagley, Butcher, from 13 Nov. to 18 Dec.	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	17	7
Mr. Coleman, Fishmonger	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	2	4
Mr. Wyld, Cheesemonger	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	19	1½
Mr. White, Fruit and other things to Merton	...	...	...	...	...	...	0	18	0
Mr. Allard, Greengrocer	...	...	...	...	...	...	0	16	11
Mr. Thomas, for Parmesan Cheese	...	...	...	...	...	...	0	11	10½
Mr. Cummins, for Washing	...	...	...	...	...	...	0	9	8
Richard, for Turnpike	...	...	...	...	...	...	0	8	0
Mr. Gadd, Baker	...	...	...	...	...	...	0	5	4¼
Mr. Lucas, for Milk	...	...	...	...	...	...	0	1	7
Mr. Greenfield, Butcher at Merton	...	...	...	...	...	...	11	7	8½
Mr. Mason, for Brown Stout Do.	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	0	9
Mr. Whitmore, for Poultry at Do.	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	4	9
Mr. Skelton, Baker at Do.	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	14	4¼
Mr. Woodman, Chandler Shop Do.	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	8	11
Mr. Cribb, for Vegetable Do.	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	0	6
Mr. Boyes, for Letters	...	...	...	...	...	...	0	11	2
Tradesmen's bills from 13 to 20 Dec.	...	...	...	...	...	...	£79	18	6
Expended in the house from Do. to Do.	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	5	2
Do. by the Cook at Merton	...	...	...	...	...	...	0	12	3
Total from the 13 to 20 Dec.	...	...	...	...	...	...	£82	15	11
Last week's acc <sup>t</sup> brought forward	...	...	...	...	...	...	30	19	5¼
Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	£113	15	4¾

28 Dec., 1802. Rec<sup>d</sup> of the R<sup>t</sup> Hon<sup>ble</sup> Sir W<sup>m</sup> Hamilton the Half of the  
above sum ... 56 17 8  
[Paid £56 17s. 8d. Dec. 29th, 1802, by NELSON & BRONTE.]

*Weekly Account of the RT. HON. SIR WM. HAMILTON and the RT. HON. LORD  
VISCOUNT NELSON from the 20th to the 27th Dec., 1802.*

Mr. Stinton, Grocer	...	...	...	...	...	...	£10	15	1½
Mr. Coleman, Fishmonger	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	11	4
Mr. Wyld, Cheesemonger	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	18	1½
Mr. Allard, Greengrocer	...	...	...	...	...	...	0	12	7
Mr. Gadd, Baker	...	...	...	...	...	...	0	8	8
Mr. White, Fruit to Merton	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	3	6
Gaetano, for Turnpike	...	...	...	...	...	...	0	3	2
Coachman, for Do.	...	...	...	...	...	...	0	3	11
Mr. Cummins, for Washing	...	...	...	...	...	...	0	5	9½
Mr. Lucas, for Milk	...	...	...	...	...	...	0	3	4
Mr. Greenfield, Butcher at Merton	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	16	10½
Mr. Denny, for Poultry at Do.	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	0	6
Mr. Woodman, Chandler Shop at Do.	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	7	9
Mr. Cribb, for Vegetable at Do.	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	4	9
Mr. Whitmore, for Poultry at Do.	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	19	6
Mr. Skelton, Baker at Do.	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	17	7½
Mr. Chapman, for Pork at Do.	...	...	...	...	...	...	0	17	6
Mr. Boyes, for Letters at Do.	...	...	...	...	...	...	0	16	11
Mr. Haines, for a Turkey at Do.	...	...	...	...	...	...	0	16	0
Mr. Skelton, for 50 Wood Bavins at Do.	...	...	...	...	...	...	0	15	0
Tradesmen's bills from 20 to 27 Dec.	...	...	...	...	...	...	£42	17	11½
Expended in the house from Do. to Do.	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	14	8½
Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	£47	12	8

Jan. 9th, 1803,

Settled the above acc<sup>ts</sup>.—FRANS. WHITE,



*Weekly Account of the RT. HON. SIR WM. HAMILTON and the RT. HON. LORD  
VISCOUNT NELSON, from the 27th Dec., 1802, to the 3rd Jan., 1803.*

	£	s.	d.
Mr. Stinton, Grocer ... ..	9	12	10½
Mr. Allard, Greengrocer ... ..	2	8	11
Mr. Coleman, Fishmonger ... ..	4	14	8
Mr. Wyld, Cheesemonger ... ..	2	19	3½
Mr. Price, for Maccarone ... ..	2	10	6
Mr. Cummins, for Washing ... ..	0	10	4½
Mr. Gadd, Baker ... ..	0	4	10½
Mr. Lucas, for Milk ... ..	0	1	6
Mr. Greenfield, Butcher at Merton ... ..	16	10	2½
Mr. Woodman, Chandler Shop at Do. ... ..	3	9	9
Mr. Denny, for Poultry at Do. ... ..	3	6	6
Mr. Skelton, Baker at Do. ... ..	2	3	6¼
Mr. Cribb, Vegetables at Do. ... ..	1	2	6
Mr. Boyes, for Letters at Do. ... ..	0	12	5
Tradesmen's bills from the 27th Dec. to 3rd Jan. ... ..	£50	7	10¾
Expended in the house from Do. to Do. ... ..	3	5	4
Expended by the Cook at Merton ... ..	13	5	7
To 5 weeks' board wages to the two Coachmen, from the 29 Nov. to the 3rd Jan., 1803 ... ..	7	0	0
To Richard, for Turnpike at different times ... ..	0	8	4
To the old Coachman for Do. Do. ... ..	0	3	0
Total ... ..	£74	10	1¾
Last week's acc <sup>t</sup> brought forward ... ..	47	12	8
Total expended from 20 Dec., 1802, to 3rd Jan., 1803 ... ..	£122	2	9¾
Rec <sup>d</sup> 9 Jan., 1803, of the R <sup>t</sup> Hon <sup>ble</sup> Sir W <sup>m</sup> Hamilton, the sum of Sixty- one Pounds One Shilling and Fivepence, being the half of the above acc <sup>ts</sup> , by me, FRANS. WHITE ... ..	61	1	5
[Paid by Lord Nelson £61 1s. 5d. Jan. 11th, 1803.—NELSON & BRONTE.]			

*Weekly Account of the RT. HON. SIR WM. HAMILTON and the RT. HON. LORD  
VISCOUNT NELSON, from the 3rd to the 10th January, 1803.*

	£	s.	d.
Mr. Coleman, Fishmonger ... ..	5	8	3
Mr. Slinton, Grocer ... ..	4	4	8
Mr. Mattam, Brewer ... ..	3	10	0
Mr. Wyld, Cheesemonger ... ..	2	11	10
Mr. Allard, Greengrocer ... ..	2	6	10
Mr. Gadd, Baker ... ..	0	6	2
Mr. Cummins, for Washing ... ..	0	6	1
Mr. Lucas, for Milk ... ..	0	3	7
Mr. Greenfield, Butcher at Merton ... ..	10	8	0½
Mr. Skelton, Baker at Do. ... ..	2	4	10¾
Mr. Cribb, for Vegetables at Do. ... ..	1	13	9
Mr. Woodman, Chandler Shop at Do. ... ..	1	16	10
Mr. Boys, for Letters ... ..	0	10	4
Tradesmen's bills from 3rd to the 10th Jan. ... ..	35	11	3¼
Expended in the house from 3 to 10 Do. ... ..	3	17	2
	£39	8	5¼

January 26, 1803.

Settled the above acc<sup>t</sup>.—FRANS. WHITE.

*Weekly Account of the RT. HON. SIR WM. HAMILTON and the RT. HON. LORD  
VISCOUNT NELSON, from the 10th to the 17th January, 1803.*

	£	s.	d.
Mr. Tavernier, Wine Merchant ... ..	103	0	4
Mrs. Perry, Pastry Cook ... ..	20	0	1
Mr. Stinton, Grocer ... ..	14	2	5
Mr. Johnson, for Maraschino ... ..	9	19	6
Mr. Simpson, for a Case Fish Sauce ... ..	2	18	0
Mr. Peartree, for Baiting the, different times ... ..	1	8	0
Mr. Price, for Maccarone ... ..	1	9	9
Mr. Wyld, Cheesemonger ... ..	2	13	7½
Mr. Coleman, Fishmonger ... ..	5	6	10
Mr. Allard, Greengrocer ... ..	0	16	4
Mrs. Cummins, Washing ... ..	0	16	9½
Mr. Gadd, Baker ... ..	0	5	4½
Mr. Lucas, Milkman ... ..	0	3	2
Gaetano, for Turnpike ... ..	0	4	1
Mr. Davis & Bent, Brewers at Merton ... ..	17	9	0
Mr. Greenfield, Butcher at Do. ... ..	12	14	4
Mr. Woodman, for Parcels, &c., at Do. ... ..	6	14	8
Mr. Mason, for Brown Stout at Do. ... ..	3	13	9
Mr. Skelton, Baker at Do. ... ..	2	0	8
Mr. Woodman, Chandler Shop at Do. ... ..	1	8	10
Mr. Boyes, for Letters at Do. ... ..	0	12	11
Mr. Denny, for Poultry at Do. ... ..	4	6	0
Mr. Chapman, for Pork, &c. ... ..	1	10	1½
	£213	14	7¼
Expended in the house from 10 to 17 Jan. ... ..	2	5	6
Do. by the Cook at Merton ... ..	2	13	0
Last week's acc <sup>t</sup> brought forward ... ..	39	8	5¼
Total from the 3rd to the 17 Jan. ... ..	£258	1	7
J. n. 26, 1803, Rec <sup>d</sup> of the R <sup>t</sup> Hon <sup>ble</sup> Sir Wm Hamilton by me, FRANS.			
WHITE ... ..	129	0	9½
[Lord Nelson paid Jan. 27th.—N. & B.]			

*Weekly Account of the RT. HON. SIR WM. HAMILTON and the RT. HON. LORD  
VISCOUNT NELSON, from the 17th to the 24th January, 1803.*

	£	s.	d.
Mr. Stinton, Grocer ... ..	11	7	10½
Mr. Aislabie, for Hock and Bottles ... ..	10	10	3
Mr. Coleman, Fishmonger ... ..	3	1	10
Mr. Price, for a Case of Macaroni ... ..	2	14	6
Mr. Radford, for Meat ... ..	2	3	10
Mr. Wyld, Cheesemonger ... ..	1	19	1½
Mr. Allard, Greengrocer ... ..	1	7	9
Mr. Gadd, Baker ... ..	0	7	2
Mr. Cummins, for Washing ... ..	0	6	6
Two Coachmen 3 weeks' board wages ... ..	4	4	0
Mr. Lucas, for Milk ... ..	0	3	3
Gaetano and old Coachman, Turnpike ... ..	0	3	10
Mr. Greenfield, Butcher at Merton ... ..	11	4	11½
Mr. Mason, for Brown Stout at Do. ... ..	2	2	9
Mr. Denny, Poulter at Do. ... ..	2	6	0½
Mr. Cribb, for Vegetables at Do. ... ..	3	3	3
Mr. Skelton, Baker at Do. ... ..	1	13	6
Mr. Woodman, Chandler Shop at Do. ... ..	1	5	10½



[Brought forward]							£	s.	d.
Mr. Whitmore, Poulterer at Do.	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	4	0
Mrs. Barnes, for Wages and other Expenses	...	...	...	...	...	...	23	1	3
Tradesmen's bills, &c., from 17 to 24 Jan.	...	...	...	...	...	...	£86	11	6½
Expended in the house from Do. to Do.	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	3	0½
Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	£89	14	7

Feb. 8, 1803. Settled the above acc<sup>ts</sup>.—FRANS. WHITE.

*Weekly Account of the RT. HON. SIR WM. HAMILTON and the RT. HON. LORD  
VISCOUNT NELSON, from the 24th to the 31st January, 1803.*

							£	s.	d.
Mr. Stinton, Grocer	...	...	...	...	...	...	11	2	1½
Mr. Coleman, Fishmonger	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	0	2
Mr. Wyld, Cheesemonger	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	13	0
Mr. Allard, Greengrocer	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	10	2
Mr. Grange, &c., Fruiterers	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	5	9
Mr. Gadd, Baker	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	7	2½
Mr. Cummins, for Washing	...	...	...	...	...	...	0	9	2¼
Phillis Thorpe, housemaid at Merton, for 3 months and three days' wages	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	13	9
To Richard, for Turnpike to & from Merton	...	...	...	...	...	...	0	8	3
Tradesmen's bills from the 24th to 31st Jan.	...	...	...	...	...	...	£33	9	7½
Expended in the house from Do. to Do.	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	7	10
Last week's acc <sup>t</sup> brought forward	...	...	...	...	...	...	89	14	7
Total from the 17th to 31st Jan., 1803	...	...	...	...	...	...	£127	12	0½

8 Feb., 1803. Rec<sup>d</sup> of the R<sup>t</sup> Hon<sup>ble</sup> Sir W<sup>m</sup> Hamilton the half of the  
above acc<sup>t</sup>, by me, FRANS. WHITE ... 63 16 0  
[Paid by Lord Nelson, Feb. 9th, 1803.—NELSON & BRONTE.]

*Weekly Account of the RT. HON. SIR WM. HAMILTON and the RT. HON. LORD  
VISCOUNT NELSON, from the 31st January to the 17th February, 1803.*

							£	s.	d.
Mr. Coleman, Fishmonger	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	16	0
Mr. Allard, Greengrocer	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	17	0
Mr. Stinton, Grocer	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	19	10
Mr. Wyld, Cheesemonger	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	12	1½
Mr. Poulain, Brewer	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	3	0
Mr. Gadd, Baker	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	0	4
Mr. Lucas, for Milk & Cream, 2 weeks	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	11	2
Mrs. Cummins, for Washing	...	...	...	...	...	...	0	6	11
Richard, for Turnpike	...	...	...	...	...	...	0	8	8
Mrs. Barnes, for a Roasting Pig	...	...	...	...	...	...	0	9	6
Matthews, the old Coachman, for two weeks' board wages, from 24th Jan. to 6th Feb.	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	8	0
Mr. Skelton, Baker at Merton, 2 weeks	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	13	6¾
Mr. Greenfield, Butcher at Merton, 2 weeks...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	17	3
Mr. Woodman, Chandler Shop at Do., 2 weeks	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	0	2
Mr. Cribb, for Vegetables at Do., 2 weeks	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	6
Mr. Boyes, for Letters at Do., 2 weeks	...	...	...	...	...	...	0	14	8
Mrs. Cadogan, expended at Do., 2 weeks	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	16	2
Tradesmen's bills from 31st Jan. to 7th Feb.	...	...	...	...	...	...	£49	15	10¼
Expended in the house from Do. to Do.	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	13	10
Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	£54	9	8½

Feb. 17, 1803. Settled the above acc<sup>t</sup>.—FRANS. WHITE.

*Weekly Account of the RT. HON. SIR WM. HAMILTON and the RT. HON. LORD  
VISCOUNT NELSON, from the 7th to the 14th February, 1803.*

	£	s.	d.
Mr. Stinton, Grocer ... ..	7	16	6
Mr. Allard, Greengrocer ... ..	7	1	7
Mr. Dagley, Butcher, from 21 Dec. to 12 Feb. ... ..	33	18	8
Mr. Wyld, Cheesemonger ... ..	4	0	0
Mr. Coleman, Fishmonger ... ..	4	19	9
Mr. Gadd, Baker ... ..	1	2	9½
Mr. Haines, Poulterer, from 18 Dec. to 13 Feb. ... ..	13	10	9
Mr. French, for Lamb ... ..	2	5	6
Mr. Nowel, for Coffee at Merton ... ..	1	1	0
Mr. Clarke, for Woodcock & Larks ... ..	1	4	0
Mr. Lucas, for Milk & Cream ... ..	1	0	9
Sir Wm's Coachman, 3 weeks' board wages, from 24 to the 13 Feb. ... ..	2	4	0
Mr. Cummins, for Washing ... ..	0	7	3
Mrs. Delama, for Coffee ... ..	1	1	0
Mr. Greenfield, Butcher at Merton ... ..	3	4	9
Mr. Skelton, Baker at Do. ... ..	0	19	9½
Mr. Woodman, Chandler Shop at Do. ... ..	0	8	11
Mr. Boyes, for Letters at ... ..	0	13	7
Tradesmen's bills from 7 to 14 Feb. ... ..	£87	0	7
Expend in the house from Do. to Do. ... ..	3	4	4
Last week's acc <sup>t</sup> brought forward ... ..	54	9	8½
Total ... ..	£144	14	7½

[Paid Mr. White, Feb. 18th, 1803.—NELSON & BRONTE.]

Feb. 17, 1803. Rec<sup>d</sup> of the R<sup>t</sup> Hon<sup>ble</sup> Sir Wm Hamilton Seventy-two Pounds Seven Shillings & Threepence Halfpenny, being the half of the above sum, by me,  
F. WHITE.

*Weekly Account of the RT. HON. SIR WM. HAMILTON and the RT. HON. LORD  
VISCOUNT NELSON, from the 14th to the 21st February, 1803.*

	£	s.	d.
Mr. Dagley, Butcher ... ..	11	18	3½
Mr. Coleman, Fishmonger ... ..	5	19	0
Mr. Allard, Greengrocer ... ..	5	10	9
Mr. Stinton, Grocer ... ..	4	17	10
Mr. Haines, Poulterer ... ..	4	19	3
Mr. Wyld, Cheesemonger ... ..	3	9	5½
Mr. Lucas, Milkman ... ..	1	6	6
Mr. Gadd, Baker ... ..	1	2	0½
Mrs. Cummins, for Washing ... ..	0	4	5
To Richard, for Turnpike ... ..	0	7	7
To Jn <sup>o</sup> Matthews, 2 weeks' board wages ... ..	1	8	0
Mr. Greenfield, Butcher at Merton ... ..	4	4	7
Mr. Skelton, Baker at Do. ... ..	0	17	9
Mr. Woodman, Chandler Shop at Do. ... ..	0	10	1½
Mr. Cribb, for Vegetable at Do. ... ..	0	10	6
Do. Do. Do. ... ..	0	8	9
Tradesmen's bills from 14th to 21st Feb. ... ..	£47	14	10
Expend in the house from Do. to Do. ... ..	3	2	1
Total ... ..	£50	16	11

8 March, 1803.

Settled the above accounts.—F. WHITE.



*Weekly Account of the* RT. HON. SIR WM. HAMILTON *and the* RT. HON. LORD  
VISCOUNT NELSON, *from the 28th February to the 7th March, 1803.*

	£	s.	d.
Mr. Tupp & Perry, Pastry Cooks ... ..	20	19	0
Mr. Coleman, Fishmonger ... ..	8	0	6
Mr. Stinton, Grocer ... ..	6	3	2
Mr. Haines, Poulterer ... ..	6	0	6
Mr. Allard, Green Grocer ... ..	5	11	4
Mr. Wyld, Cheesemonger ... ..	3	8	1
Mr. Bowering & Robertson, for Brown Stout ... ..	3	3	0
Mr. Peartree, for Baiting the Horse & Osler ... ..	2	0	0
Mr. Mackay, Oilman ... ..	1	0	8
Mr. Lucas, Milkman ... ..	1	11	1
Mr. Gadd, Baker ... ..	1	6	11
Mr. Lambe, for Bristol Water ... ..	0	6	0
Sir Wm's Coachman, 3 weeks' board wages ... ..	2	2	0
For Oil to Do. ... ..	0	2	0
My Lady's Coachman, 2 weeks' board wages ... ..	1	8	0
Mrs. Delham, for Coffee ... ..	1	1	0
Carriage and Cartage for a Case of Wine from Portsmouth ... ..	0	11	4
Richard, for Turnpike ... ..	0	7	11
Mrs. Cummins, for Washing ... ..	0	3	9½
Mr. Greenfield, Butcher at Merton ... ..	2	15	4
Mr. Skelton, Baker at Do. ... ..	1	0	0
Mr. Woodman, Chandler Shop at Do. ... ..	0	11	8
Mr. Cribb, for Vegetables ... ..	0	8	6
Mr. Boyes, for Letters ... ..	0	6	0
Mr. Dagley, Town Butcher ... ..	11	10	11½
Tradesmen's bills from 28 Feb. to 7 March ... ..	£81	18	9
Expended in the house from Do. to Do. ... ..	3	13	8
Total ... ..	£85	12	5
19 March, 1803.	Settled the above accounts.—FRANS. WHITE.		

*Weekly Account of the* RT. HON. SIR WM. HAMILTON *and the* RT. HON. LORD  
VISCOUNT NELSON, *from the 14th to the 21st March, 1803.*

	£	s.	d.
Mr. Dagley, Butcher ... ..	11	12	0½
Mr. Allard, Greengrocer ... ..	6	2	6
Mr. Coleman, Fishmonger ... ..	6	0	6
Mr. Haines, Poulterer ... ..	5	9	0
Mr. Stinton, Grocer ... ..	5	6	7
Mr. Wyld, Cheesemonger ... ..	2	11	9
Mr. Lucas, Milkman ... ..	1	19	5
Mr. Gadd, Baker ... ..	1	6	10
Mr. Mackay, Oilman ... ..	0	18	0½
Mr. Grigg, Chandler Shop ... ..	1	7	6
Richard, for Turnpike ... ..	0	10	1
Mr. Ridley, for Sugar ... ..	0	5	6
Mr. Cummins, for Washing ... ..	0	2	5
Mr. Greenfield, Butcher at Merton ... ..	5	0	1
Mr. Skelton, Baker at Do. ... ..	0	17	3
Mr. Woodman, Chandler Shop at Do. ... ..	0	10	11
Mr. Cribb, for Vegetables at Do. ... ..	0	5	6
Tradesmen's bills from 14 to 21st March ... ..	£50	5	11
Expended in the house from Do. to Do. ... ..	4	0	3
Carried forward. Total ... ..	£54	6	2

*Weekly Account of the RT. HON. SIR WM. HAMILTON and the RT. HON. LORD  
VISCOUNT NELSON, from the 21st to the 28th March, 1803.*

	£	s.	d.
Mr. Dagley, Butcher ... ..	13	19	9½
Mr. Allard, Greengrocer ... ..	10	7	1
Mr. Stinton, Grocer ... ..	8	4	2½
Mr. Haines, Poulterer ... ..	6	14	0
Mr. Coleman, Fishmonger ... ..	4	11	6
Mr. Peto, for Oysters ... ..	6	8	6
Mr. Lucas, Milkman ... ..	2	2	10
Mr. Freser, for Lamb ... ..	1	15	6
Mrs. D'ham, for Coffee... ..	2	8	0
Mr. Gadd, Baker ... ..	1	5	6
Mr. Grigg, Chandler Shop ... ..	0	15	0
Mr. Ridley, for Sugar ... ..	0	6	3
Mr. Cummins, for Washing ... ..	0	2	4½
W <sup>m</sup> Austin, Board wages from 7 to 28 inst ... ..	2	4	4
John Mathews, Do. from 7 to 21 Do. ... ..	1	8	0
Twenty-five days to the Chairwoman in the Kitchen ... ..	1	17	6
Mr. Wyld, Cheesemonger ... ..	4	0	0
Mr. Greenfield, Butcher at Merton ... ..	6	17	10
Mr. Woodman, Chandler Shop at Do. ... ..	1	0	8½
Mr. Skelton, Baker at Do. ... ..	0	19	6
Mr. Cribb, for Vegetables at Do. ... ..	0	5	6
Mr. Mason, for Brown Stout at Do. ... ..	2	5	6
Mr. Pascoe, for Malt & Sugar at Do.... ..	17	3	3
Expended by Mrs. Cadogan at Do. ... ..	0	19	9
Tradesmen's bills from 21st to 28th March ... ..	£98	2	5
Expended in the house from Do. to Do. ... ..	3	15	9
Last week's account brought forward... ..	54	6	2
Total from the 14 to 28 March ... ..	£156	4	4

*Weekly Account of the RT. HON. SIR WM. HAMILTON and the RT. HON. LORD  
VISCOUNT NELSON, from 28th March to the 4th April, 1803.*

	£	s.	d.
Mr. Stinton, Grocer ... ..	9	0	1½
Mr. Dagley, Butcher ... ..	12	17	6
Mr. Allard, Green Grocer ... ..	5	11	2
Mr. Haines, Poulterer ... ..	4	15	9
Mr. Wyld, Cheesemonger ... ..	2	4	4
Mr. Coleman, Fishmonger ... ..	2	5	0
Mr. Cummins, Washerwoman... ..	1	18	1
Mr. Gadd, Baker ... ..	0	19	8¼
Mr. Lucas, Milkman ... ..	0	19	5
Mr. Mackay, Oilman ... ..	0	16	4
Mr. Grigg, Chandler Shop ... ..	0	9	4
Mathews, Coachman, Board wages from the 21st March to the 4th April ... ..	1	8	0
To Richard, for Turnpikes ... ..	0	8	8
Mr. Greenfield, Butcher at Merton ... ..	3	4	11
Mr. Cribb, for Vegetables at Do. ... ..	1	14	3
Mr. Skelton, Baker at Do. ... ..	0	18	11½
Mr. Woodman, Chandler Shop at Do. ... ..	0	16	2
Tradesmen's bills from 28 March to 4 April... ..	£50	7	8¼
Expended in the house from Do. to Do. ... ..	2	16	1½
Total ... ..	£53	3	9¾



## APPENDIX E.

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1. Office Copy of Sir William Hamilton's Will. Dated April 16th, 1803.  
24 pages folio. [H.]

'This is the last Will and Testament of me, the Right Honorable Sir William Hamilton, of Colby in the County of Pembroke, Knight of the Most Honorable Order of the Bath. First, to fulfil the promise I made to my excellent wife, Catherine, Lady Hamilton, deceased, I desire my body may be deposited near her's in the family vault of the Barlows' in Slebeck Church, in the County of Pembroke, and that my funeral may be conducted in as private a manner as decency and propriety will admit, and I direct my just debts and testamentary expences and legacies to be paid and satisfied out of my personal estate, and in case my personal estate shall be insufficient for the payment thereof, then I do hereby charge, and make chargeable in aid thereof, all my manors, hereditaments, and real estate, by me hereinafter given and revised. I give and bequeath unto my dear wife, Emma Lady Hamilton, the sum of three hundred pounds of lawful money of Great Britain, to be paid to her immediately after my decease, and to her mother, Mary Cadogan, the sum of one hundred pounds of like lawful money, to be paid to her immediately after my decease. And as to all the residue and remainder of my monies, stocks, funds, and securities, debts, goods, chattels, and all other my personal estate and effects, whatsoever and wheresoever, from and after the payment of all my debts, funeral and testamentary expences, and legacies, I give and bequeath the same, and every part thereof, unto my nephew, the Right Honorable Charles Francis Greville, second son of the late Francis Earl of Warwick, and to his executors, administrators, and assigns, to and for his and their own use and benefit, and I give and devise unto the Most Honorable James Marquis of Abercorn and John Meyrick, of Bush, in the County of Pembroke aforesaid, Esquire, all my mortgages and securities whatsoever, and the lands, tenements, hereditaments, and premises comprised therein, and all the lands, tenements, hereditaments, and premises whereof or whereto I am seized, possessed, or entitled as sole trustee for any person or persons, to hold the same unto and to the use of the said James Marquis of Abercorn and John Meyrick, their heirs, executors, administrators, and assigns, according to the nature and quality of the same heredit<sup>mts</sup> and premises respectively upon such trusts, and to and for such intents and purposes as the same now are or may hereafter become subject or liable to, and I give and devise unto the said James Marquis of Abercorn and John Meyrick, their heirs and assigns, all my manors, messuages, farms, lands, tenements, and hereditaments whatsoever, whether in possession, reversion, remainder, or expectancy, situate, lying, and being in the County of Pembroke, town and county of Haverford West, Borough of Carmarthen, or elsewhere in the Kingdom of Great Britain, to hold the same unto the said James Marquis of Abercorn and John Meyrick, their heirs and assigns, to the several uses upon and for the several trusts, intents, and purposes, hereinafter expressed and declared of and concerning the same (that is to say) as to all the same manors, messuages, farms, lands, tenements, and hereditaments (except the prebend of Llawhadden) held under the Chancellor of the Church of St. David's, to the use and intent that the said James Marquis of Abercorn and John Meyrick, their executors, administrators, and assigns, may yearly, during the natural life of my said wife, Lady Hamilton, receive and take by and out of the

rents and profits of the same manors, and hereditaments, one annuity or yearly rent charge of eight hundred pounds of lawful money of Great Britain, clear of all deductions, and to be payable quarterly, on the twenty-fifth day of March, the twenty-fourth day of June, the twenty-ninth day of September, and the twenty-fifth day of December, in every year, by equal portions, the first quarterly payment thereof to commence on such of the said days as shall next happen after my decease, upon trust, nevertheless to pay the said annuity or rent charge unto my said wife, Lady Hamilton, and her assigns, during her natural life, for her sole and separate use and disposal, without being liable to the debts, controul, forfeiture, disposition, or engagements, of any husband or husbands with whom she, my said wife, may happen to marry, and her receipt alone from time to time, notwithstanding her being under coverture, shall be a sufficient discharge to the said James Marquis of Abercorn and John Meyrick, their executors, administrators, and assigns, for so much money as in such receipt or receipts shall be expressed to be received, and it is my will and meaning and I do hereby declare that the said annuity or yearly rent charge of eight hundred pounds shall be received by my said wife as well in confidence that she will during her life provide for her mother, as also in full satisfaction and in bar of any right, title, or interest that she, my said wife, may have or claim into or out of my real estates or any part thereof, by way of dower or free bench or otherwise howsoever, and I do hereby give to the said James Marquis of Abercorn and John Meyrick, their executors, administrators, and assigns, in case of non-payment of the said annuity or yearly rent charge of eight hundred pounds, by such equal quarterly payments as aforesaid, all such powers, right and benefit of entry and distress, and all other remedies for recovering the said annuity or yearly rent charge of eight hundred pounds and all arrears thereof, and the costs and charges attending the same, as is competent to landlords in cases of rent in arrears by their tenants at rack rents and charged and chargeable as aforesaid, to the use and intent that the said Mary Cadogan, and her assigns, may yearly during her natural life, in case she shall survive my said wife, Lady Hamilton, receive and take by and out of the rents and profits of the same manors and hereditaments, annuity or yearly rent charge of one hundred pounds of lawful money of Great Britain, clear of all deductions, and to be payable quarterly on the days hereinbefore mentioned, in every year, by equal portions, and the first payment thereof to commence on such of the said days as shall happen next after the death of my said wife, Lady Hamilton, and I do hereby give to the said Mary Cadogan, and her assigns, all such powers of entry and distress, for securing the payment of the said annuity or rent charge of one hundred pounds on the days aforesaid, and all costs and charges attending the same, as I have hereinbefore given to the said James Marquis of Abercorn and John Meyrick, for securing the said annuity or rent charge of eight hundred pounds hereinbefore limited to them and charged and chargeable with the said annuities or yearly rent charges of eight hundred pounds and one hundred pounds as aforesaid, as to the same manors, messuages, farms, lands, tenements, and hereditaments, and also as to the said prebend of Llawhadden, to the use of my said nephew, Charles Francis Greville, and his assigns, for the term of his natural life, without impeachment of waste, and from and after the determination of that estate in his life time to the use of the Right Honorable George Earl of Warwick and Sir John Macpherson, of Brompton, in the County of Middlesex, Baronet, their heirs and assigns, during the natural life of the said Charles Francis Greville, in trust to support the contingent uses and estates, hereinafter limited from being defeated or destroyed, and for that purpose to make entries and bring actions as occasion shall require, but nevertheless to permit the said Charles Francis Greville and his assigns, during his life to receive and take the rents and profits of the said manor and premises to and for his and their own use and benefit, and from and after the decease of the said Charles Francis Greville, to the use of the first, second, and all and every other, the son and sons of the said Charles Francis Greville, severally and successively one after another in order and course as they shall be in seniority of age and priority of birth, and of the several heirs male of their several and respective bodies, lawfully to be begotten, the elder of the said sons and the heirs male of his body being always to be preferred before the younger and the heirs male of their



bodies, and for default of such issue, to the use of my nephew, the Honorable Robert Fulk Greville, and his assigns, for the term of his natural life without impeachment of waste, and from and after the determination of that estate in his life time, to the use of the said George Earl of Warwick and Sir John Macpherson, and their heirs and assigns, during the natural life of the said Robert Fulk Greville, in trust to support the contingent uses and estates hereinafter limited from being defeated or destroyed, and for that purpose to make entries and bring actions as occasion shall require, yet nevertheless to permit and suffer the said Robert Fulk Greville and his assigns, during his life to receive and take the rents and profits of the said manors and premises to and for his and their own use and benefit, and from and after the decease of the said Robert Fulk Greville, to the use of the first, second, and all and every other, the son and sons of the said Robert Fulk Greville, severally and successively one after another in order and course as they shall be in seniority of age and priority of birth, and of the several heirs male of their several and respective bodies lawfully to be begotten, the elder of the said sons and the heirs male of his body being always to be preferred and to take before the younger of them and the heirs male of their bodies, and for default of such issue to the use of the first, second, and all and every other, the daughter and daughters of the said Robert Fulk Greville, severally and successively one after another in order and course as they shall be in seniority of age and priority of birth, and of the several heirs male of their several and respective bodies lawfully to be begotten, the elder of the said daughters and the heirs male of her body being always to be preferred and to take before the younger of them and the heirs male of their bodies, and for default of such issue, to the use of my nephew, the Right Honorable William Lord Cathcart and his heirs, for the term of his natural life, without impeachment of waste, and from and after the determination of that estate in his life, to the use of the said George Earl of Warwick and Sir John Macpherson, their heirs and assigns, during the natural life of the said William Lord Cathcart, in trust to support the contingent uses and estates hereinafter limited from being defeated or destroyed, and for that purpose to make entries and bring actions as occasion shall require, yet nevertheless to permit the said William Lord Cathcart, and his assigns, during his life to receive and take the rents and profits of the said manors and premises to and for his and their own use and benefit, and from and after the decease of the said William Lord Cathcart to the use of the first, second, and all and every other, the son and sons of the said William Lord Cathcart severally and successively one after another, in order and course as they shall be in seniority of age and priority of birth, and of the several heirs male of their several and respective bodies, lawfully to be begotten, the elder of the said sons and the heirs male of his body being always to be preferred and to take before the younger of them and the heirs male of their bodies, and for default of such issue, to the use of my nephew, the Honorable Archibald Cathcart, and his assigns, for the term of his natural life without impeachment of waste, and from and after the determination of that estate in his life time, to the use of the said George Earl of Warwick, their heirs and assigns during the natural life of the said Archibald Cathcart, in trust to support the contingent uses and estates hereinafter limited from being defeated or destroyed, and for that purpose to make entries and bring actions as occasion shall require, yet nevertheless to permit and suffer the said Archibald Cathcart, and his assigns, during his life to receive and take the rents, issues, and profits of the said manors and premises to and for his and their own use and benefit, and from and after the decease of the said Archibald Cathcart, to the use of the first, second, and all and every other, the son and sons of the said Archibald Cathcart, severally and successively one after another in order and course as they shall be in seniority of age and priority of birth, and the several heirs male of their several and respective bodies, lawfully to be begotten, the elder of the said sons and the heirs male of his body being always to be preferred and to take before the younger and the heirs male of their bodies, and for default of such issue, to the use of the said Charles Francis Greville, his heirs and assigns, for ever, provided always nevertheless and my mind and will is that it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Charles Francis Greville, Robert Fulk Greville, William Lord Cathcart, and

Archibald Cathcart respectively, as and when they shall respectively come into and be in the actual possession of the said several and respective manors, messuages, farms, lands, tenements, and hereditaments, or entitled to the rents and profits thereof, for their several and respective natural lives as aforesaid, or any of them or any part or parts thereof, by any deed or deeds indented under their hands and seals respectively, to make or grant any lease or leases in possession, but not in reversion or remainder, or by way of future interest of all or any of the same manors and premises, whereof they shall be so respectively in possession, unto any person or persons for any term of years as shall be found necessary for the purpose of building and setting up houses, and other erections and buildings, upon such parts of the said manors and premises as shall be so leased or otherwise, or for such term or number of years upon any life or lives, and under and subject to such reservations, stipulations, and agreements, as shall be usual or customary in such cases, and so as in every such lease, there be contained a clause of re-entry for nonpayment of the rent or rents to be thereby respectively reserved, and so as the lessee or lessees to whom such leases shall be respectively made do execute a counterpart or counterparts thereof, provided also and my will and mind further is that whereas I some time since joined with my nephew, the said Charles Francis Greville, in a bond or obligation to enable him to postpone the payment of several debts or sums of money due from him, and it being my intention to empower my said nephew to secure the sum of six thousand pounds immediately upon my said manors and hereditaments, but to be made payable after my decease, as hereinafter mentioned, by creating such charge thereon as is hereinafter mentioned in exoneration of the said debts. I do hereby direct and declare that it shall and may be lawful to and for my said nephew, Charles Francis Greville, at any time or times hereafter, as well during my life time as after my decease, by any deed or deeds, writing or writings, to be sealed and delivered by him in the presence of two or more credible witnesses, and to be with or without power of revocation, or by his last will and testament in writing, or any codicil or codicils thereof, to be by him signed, sealed, published, and declared, in the presence of and to be attested by three or more credible witnesses, to charge all my said manors, messuages, farms, lands, tenements, and hereditaments hereinbefore devised, or any part thereof, with or for the payment of any sum or sums of money not exceeding six thousand pounds of lawful money of Great Britain, unto or for the benefit of any person or persons whomsoever, to be paid at such time or times after my decease, notwithstanding the said Charles Francis Greville may die in my life time, and to be upon and for such trusts, intents, and purposes, and under and subject to such provisoes, restrictions, and limitations, as shall in the same deed or deeds, writing or writings, last will and testament, codicil or codicils, respectively, be particularly mentioned, expressed, and declared of and concerning the same, but subject and without prejudice to the said annuities or yearly charges of eight hundred pounds and one hundred pounds hereinbefore limited, and for securing the same sum or sums not exceeding six thousand pounds with lawful interest by the same, or on any other deed or deeds, writing or writings, sealed and delivered as aforesaid, or by such last will and testament, codicil or codicils, attested as aforesaid, to limit or create any term of years of and in my said manors and hereditaments, or any part thereof, to any person or persons whomsoever without impeachment of waste, so nevertheless as the estate to be limited and created be made redeemable on full payment of such sum or sums of money as shall be secured thereby by the person or persons who, for the time being, shall be entitled to the freehold and inheritance of the premises so to be charged. Provided also, and my mind and will further is, that it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Charles Francis Greville and Robert Fulk Greville, William Lord Cathcart and Archibald Cathcart, respectively, as and when they shall respectively come into and be in the actual possession of my said manors, messuages, farms, lands, tenements, and hereditaments, by any deed or deeds, writing or writings, to be by them respectively sealed and delivered in the presence of two or more credible witnesses, either before or after marriage with any woman or women whom they shall respectively take or be intended to take to wife, to assign, limit, appoint, or grant, any part of my said manors and hereditaments, the clear yearly value whereof shall not exceed in he



whole the sum of five hundred pounds, or to grant or appoint any rent charge or clear yearly sum not exceeding the sum of four hundred pounds to be issuing out of all or any part of my said manors and hereditaments unto or to the use of any woman or women whom they, the said Charles Francis Greville and Robert Fulk Greville, William Lord Cathcart and Archibald Cathcart, shall respectively happen to marry or take to wife, for the life or lives of such wife or wives only for her or their jointure and jointures, and in lieu and bar of her and their dower, and so as such limitation or appointment be made subject and without prejudice to the said annuities or yearly rent charges of eight hundred pounds and one hundred pounds hereinbefore limited, and to the said power hereinbefore given to my said nephew, Charles Francis Greville, of charging the said manors and hereditaments as aforesaid, and also be not by any clause or words free from impeachment of waste, and it is my will and meaning, and I do hereby direct that in case the said Charles Francis Greville and Robert Fulk Greville, William Lord Cathcart and Archibald Cathcart, respectively or either of them shall by virtue of the power last hereinbefore to them given, grant or appoint to or to the use of any woman or women any such rent charge or annual sum for her life for her jointure as aforesaid, that he or they shall have power by the same or any other deed or deeds to give or grant to such woman or women, and her and their assigns, such powers and remedies by distress or entry for recovery of such rent charge when in arrear, and to limit all or any of the said manors, messuages, farms, lands, tenements, and hereditaments, charged and chargeable therewith, to any trustee or trustees, for any term or number of years, for better securing such rent charge as to them or either of them shall seem meet, so as such term and terms of years, in case any such shall be limited, shall be made defeasible or void on full payment of the rent charge thereby secured, and all arrears thereof together with all costs and charges to be incident thereto. Provided also, and my will is that it shall and may be lawful to and for the said James Marquis of Abercorn and John Meyrick, and the survivor of them and his heirs during the life of the said Charles Francis Greville, only with the consent and approbation of the said Charles Francis Greville, to be testified by writing under his hand and seal, attested by two or more credible witnesses, to make sale and dispose of or convey in exchange for and in lieu of other manors, messuages, farms, lands, tenements, or hereditaments, to be situate within the County of Pembroke, in the Principality of Wales, any of my manors, messuages, farms, lands, tenements, and hereditaments, hereinbefore devised, or any part thereof to any person or persons, his or their heirs and assigns either together or in parcels for such price or prices in money, or for such equivalent in manors, messuages, farms, lands, tenements, or hereditaments, and money as to them, the said trustees, or the survivor of them or his heirs, shall seem meet, and upon payment of the money arising by such sale or sales to the said James Marquis of Abercorn and John Meyrick, or the survivor of them, his heirs, executors, or administrators, the receipt and receipts of them, the said James Marquis of Abercorn and John Meyrick, or the survivor of them, his heirs, executors, or administrators, shall from time to time be a good and sufficient discharge to such purchaser or purchasers for the purchase money, for which my said manors, messuages, farms, lands, tenements, and hereditaments, or any part thereof, shall be sold, or for so much thereof as in such receipt and receipts shall be expressed to be received, and such purchaser or purchasers, and his or their heirs, executors, administrators, or assigns, shall not afterwards be obliged to see to the application, or be answerable or accountable for any loss, misapplication, or nonapplication of such purchase money or any part thereof, and when my said manors and hereditaments, or any part thereof, shall be sold for a valuable consideration in money and conveyance, or assurance shall be made thereof and executed to any purchaser or purchasers, or other person or persons, in virtue of these presents, and such receipt or receipts shall be given for the purchase money as aforesaid, and also when the same manors and hereditaments, or any part thereof, shall be disposed of or conveyed in exchange for and in lieu of any other manors or hereditaments, and the fee simple of such last-mentioned manors or hereditaments shall be well vested in the said James Marquis of Abercorn and John Meyrick, or the survivor of them or his heirs, all and every person and persons to whom any sale, conveyance, or

exchange of all or any part or parts of my said manors and hereditaments shall have been made, and the respective heirs and assigns of such person and persons shall and may have, hold, and enjoy the manors and hereditaments by them respectively purchased, or had in exchange, freed and absolutely discharged of and from all and every the uses, estates, trusts, and limitations, powers, provisoes, and declarations hereinbefore limited and expressed concerning the same, provided nevertheless and my will further is that when all or any part of my said manors and hereditaments shall be sold in pursuance of these presents, all and every the sum and sums of money which shall arise by such sale or sales shall with all convenient speed be laid out and disposed of by them, the said James Marquis of Abercorn and John Meyrick, or the survivor of them, his heirs, executors, administrators, and assigns, with such consent and approbation as aforesaid, or by and of their own proper authority, in case the said Charles Francis Greville shall be then dead, and be invested in the purchase of other freehold manors, messuages, farms, lands, tenements, or hereditaments, and of copyhold messuages, farms, lands, and hereditaments, which may be contiguous thereto, and convenient to be purchased therewith (if any), whereof not more than one fourth part in value of any one purchase shall be copyhold in fee simple in possession, be it situate, lying, and being, or arising, in the County of Pembroke and Principality of Wales, of equal or greater value to or than the manors and hereditaments which shall have been so sold or conveyed as aforesaid, and as well the hereditaments so to be purchased as those taken in exchange as aforesaid, shall be settled, conveyed, and assured, to such and the same uses, upon and for such and the same trusts, intents, and purposes, and under and subject to such and the same powers, provisoes, and limitations, as are hereinbefore limited and expressed concerning my said manors and hereditaments hereinbefore devised, or as near thereto as the deaths of the parties and other contingencies will admit, and I do hereby constitute and appoint the said Charles Francis Greville sole executor of this my last will and testament, and I do hereby revoke all former wills by me at any time heretofore made, and do publish and declare this to be my last will and testament, in witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal, and also to a duplicate thereof—that is to say I have subscribed my name to the proceeding ten sheets and to this the eleventh sheet of each part of my said will I have subscribed my name and affixed my seal, this twenty-eight day of May, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and one.

W<sup>m</sup> HAMILTON (L.S.)

Signed, sealed, published, and declared by the said Sir William Hamilton, the testaor, as and for his last will and testament, in the presence of us, who at his request and in his presence and in the presence of each other have subscribed our names as witnesses, W. Price, Lincoln's Inn ; Tho. Wood, same ; Tho. Phillips, clk. to M<sup>r</sup> Price.

*Merton, Surry, March 31<sup>st</sup> 1803.*

2. Copy of Codicil to Sir William Hamilton's Will. Dated April 16th, 1803. 3½ pages folio.

‘Having heard that there need no more to make a codicil to a will and to make it valid than that the testator should write it in his own hand, and Sign on a part of the same will, I do then, feeling myself in a very weak state of health, wish, without making any alteration to my will, to explain a few points. When I made the above written will, I had not purchased seven thousand pounds in the stocks, three per cents, and which are now in the hands of Mess<sup>rs</sup> Coutts and Co., my bankers in the Strand. This stock and whatever money may be found in Coutts's hands at my death I bequeath to the Right Honourable Charles F. Greville, my dear nephew and principal heir, he is well acquainted with all my affairs, and will understand my meaning, and I dare say act up in every point to what he knows to be my wish. All my old pictures, according to a former agreement, and all I have under the denomination of virtu, all my drawings and papers to be given to my said nephew, R<sup>t</sup> Hon<sup>ble</sup> Charles F. Greville ; but observing in my will, that at my death, by the will, my dear wife Emma



would only receive three hundred pounds of the eight hundred I have left her and her mother, as explained in the will, now not to leave my wife in such confusion at the moment of my death, my will is that my nephew Charles will pay my wife directly eight hundred pounds out of what I have in the stocks or Coutts's hands, and that her annual payments shall go on the same, and as I promised to pay Emma's debts, amounting to seven hundred pounds, but have only paid two hundred and fifty pounds, my will is that my nephew, Charles Greville, shall pay the remaining four hundred and fifty pounds from the arrears due to me from the Treasury, as the King's Minister at Naples. The copy of Madam Le Brunn's picture of Emma in enamel, by Bone, I give to my dearest friend Lord Nelson Duke of Bronte, a very small token of the great regard I have for his Lordship, the most virtuous, loyal, and truly brave character I ever met with. God bless him, and shame fall on those who do not say amen. One little article more, and I have done. My noble friend and relation, the Marquis of Douglas and Clysdale, having often expressed a great liking to my famous Amati tenor, I bequeath to his Lordship the case as it is with the tenor and Giardini violin, and he may chuse out of my musick, any that may suit him. This is also a very small mark of the regard I have for so valuable a friend and relation. All my firearms I likewise bequeath to my nephew, Charles Greville, except two guns that are at Merton, and which I bequeath to L<sup>d</sup> Nelson.

*Merton, March 31st, 1803.*

W<sup>m</sup> HAMILTON (L.S.)

Proved at London with a codicil, 16th April, 1803, before the worshipful Samuel Pearce Parson, D<sup>r</sup> of Laws and Surrogate, by the oath of the Right Hon<sup>ble</sup> Charles Francis Greville, the nephew and sole executor named in the will, to whom adm<sup>on</sup>. was granted, having first sworn duly to adm<sup>r</sup>.

On the 7<sup>th</sup> July, 1810, adm<sup>on</sup>. with the will and codicil annexed of the goods, chattels, and credits of the Right Hon<sup>ble</sup> Sir William Hamilton, Knight of the most Honorable Order of the Bath, late of Coleby in the County of Pembroke and of Piccadilly in the parish of St. George, Hanover Square, in the County of Middlesex, deceased, left unadministered by the Right Honourable Charles Francis Greville, deceased, whilst living the sole executor and residuary legatee named in the said will, was granted to the R<sup>t</sup> Hon<sup>ble</sup> Francis Fulk Greville, the brother and adm<sup>or</sup>. of the goods of the R<sup>t</sup> Hon<sup>ble</sup> Charles Francis Greville dec<sup>ed</sup>., having been first sworn duly to administer, the said ex<sup>or</sup>. dying intestate.

Ex<sup>d</sup>  
(S<sup>d</sup>) 1333 Marriott.

Signed { Geo. Goldsmith, }  
          { Nath<sup>l</sup> Goldsmith, } Deputy  
          { R. C. Cresswell, } Registrars.

# INDEX

OF

*Persons from whom Letters appear in these Volumes.*

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